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Selling out:

Energy experts against breakup of BC Hydro

by Norman Ed Baskerville

Ever since Gordon Campbell's task force on Energy Policy released an interim report in November 2001 recommending that BC Hydro be split up into three parts, deregulated, opened to market competition and potentially sold, it has been met with strong public opposition.

Around 300 people attended last Wednesday's Town Hall Meeting, BC Hydro and our Energy Future: Public or Private, held at UVic.

Originally intended as a debate, the meeting featured only speakers opposed to the deregulation and privatization of BC Hydro. BC Liberals were invited to voice their stance at the meeting, but according to BC Citizens for Public Power Coordinator Mark Veerkamp, no one in the government wished to participate. Veerkamp cited recent polls that indicate 75 per cent of British Columbians oppose the sell-off and 85 per cent want a referendum on the matter.

As further evidence of opposition to the proposed deregulation and sale of Hydro, city councilor Rob Fleming said over 1,000 municipal representatives from B.C. recently voted against the Liberal government's BC Hydro initiatives.

The Liberals have yet to release the final results of the task force report to the public, pending a cabinet review.

David Freeman, chair of the California Power Authority, said the Liberals' secrecy regarding the sale was undemocratic. Freeman went on to say that the class-action suit against the province proved that, "democracy is not dead."

Before the meeting started, volunteers solicited signatures from people entering Farquhar Auditorium for their suit against the government of B.C. and BC Hydro.

All B.C. taxpayers or Hydro users are entitled to sign the suit, which must be filed 90 days from September 25th.

The class-action suit argues that, since the people of British Columbia currently own BC Hydro, the provincial government has an obligation to the public to manage it. It also argues the government has no mandate to break up or sell parts of the public utility, since its citizens did not authorize or elect them to do so.

"What is broke in BC Hydro that needs to be fixed? The B.C. powerhouse is cheap, clean and solid as a rock financially," said Freeman, a former energy advisor to three US presidents.

"In California we're working towards getting back public ownership—this B.C. government must be on Mars," said Freeman.

Mismanagement by private companies in California led to blackouts and an energy crisis. "Had the state's five major power generators worked at their full capacity, the California energy shortage would never have happened," said Freeman.

The year after California's publicly owned energy was sold to private companies, there was a huge energy surplus and prices remained low, said Freeman. However, between 1989 and 1990, the private companies shut down several energy plants to artificially create a block in energy supply. The result was an annual wholesale price increase from seven billion to 27 billion dollars.

The government has not released the number of corporations who may be involved in purchasing the proposed dismantled parts of BC Hydro.

Accenture, the only corporation that BC Hydro has publicly acknowledged it is considering doing business with, is under investigation in the US and recently moved its head office to Bermuda.

Tim Howard, Sierra Legal Defence Fund staff lawyer, said private ownership will likely result in multiple organizations, with each layer skimming off the top to meet their profit demands.

In a post-Task Force report, Energy and Mines Minister Richard Neufeld raised public concerns about the environment when he proposed that B.C. should develop alternative energy programs based on resources such as natural gas and coal.

In Alberta, a privatized energy market, three out of the four newly approved power plants will run on coal, one of the dirtiest forms of energy production. The power is then sent south, said Freeman.

"American companies pollute here and send the power south. If you're going to sacrifice your environment, you should at least get paid for it," said Freeman.

"In California only 12 per cent of our energy is from renewable sources. Here it's 90 per cent. Everyone else is trying to go forward and B.C.'s going backwards."

University of Victoria Students' Society / Canadian Federation of Students Local 44

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

October 17th, 2002 – 11:30am Michele Pujol Room (Small Side)

UVSS

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AGENDA

CFS FCE

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Ratification of Speaker**
3. **Review of Robert's Rules of Order**
4. **Adoption of Agenda**
   a) Adoption of the 02/10/17 AGM Agenda
5. **Special Resolution**
   Motion GM 02/10/17:01
   Be it resolved that Bylaw six (6) be repealed and replaced with a revised Bylaw six (6) as presented:

BYLAW SIX — ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

6.1 Election of Constituency Organization Representatives to the Board of Directors
Constituency Organization Representatives shall be elected at a general meeting of their respective constituency organization as per the constitution of that constituency organization.

6.2 Election of At-Large and Executive Directors to the Board of Directors
At-Large and Executive Directors shall be elected by the members of the Students' Society.

6.3 Electorate
All active members in good standing of the UVSS, as per Bylaw 2.1, may vote in any election or referenda.

6.4 Maintenance of Electoral Committee

The Students' Society shall maintain an electoral committee at all times which shall be responsible for the administration of all elections to fill At-Large and Executive positions on the Board of Directors.

a. The electoral committee shall be comprised of three [3] directors, one of whom shall be an executive director.
b. No member of the electoral committee shall seek re-election while serving on the electoral committee.
c. The electoral committee shall ensure that all elections occur in the manner prescribed by this Bylaw and the policy of the Students' Society.
d. The electoral committee shall determine the eligibility of all nominated candidates according to Article Four of this Bylaw.
e. The electoral committee may disqualify a candidate, or rule an election invalid for any violation of these Bylaws.
f. The electoral committee shall decide the form of the ballot provided that the nominees for each office be listed in alphabetical order by surname.
g. The electoral committee shall make, in the event of a strike, circumstance beyond human control, or other event that may delay the electoral procedure, a decision as to how and when the electoral procedure may best be completed.
h. The electoral committee shall submit a report on the conduct and results of all elections to the Board of Directors for ratification.

6.5 Eligibility

a. Nominees for any position on the Board of Directors must be members of the Students' Society.
b. In order to seek election to the Board of Directors, members must be nominated by not less than fifteen [15] other members of the Students' Society.
c. Nominees shall run for only one position on the Board of Directors.
d. Members of the Students' Society shall not be executive directors for more than two years.

6.6 Conduct of Nominees

a. Nominees for all positions shall not commence campaigning until after the close of nominations.
b. Nominees shall ensure that all their campaign information is removed from public display by midnight the last day of polling.
c. All UVSS candidates and their supporters shall not distribute material during the campaign period which has the effect or purpose of offending or demeaning a person or group of persons on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, nationality, religion, family or marital status, physical or mental disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, or conviction for a criminal charge; or seriously threatening or intimidating a person.

6.7 Voting

a. The directors shall be elected by a secret ballot of the members.
b. Students on co-op workterms will have every opportunity to vote.
c. Members of the Students' Society may vote only once for each position in an election.
d. If only one nomination is received for a particular Executive position, members shall be asked on the ballot to approve or disapprove of the nominee. The nominee must receive the approval of the majority of ballots cast to be declared duly elected.
e. If only one nomination is received for each Director-at-Large position, the candidates will be acclaimed and considered duly elected.
f. Sealed ballot boxes are to be returned to the office specified by the electoral committee. Counting of ballots will be overseen by the electoral committee. The nominees receiving a **plurality** of votes cast shall be declared duly elected.
g. Each nominee may appoint a scrutineer to oversee the counting of ballots.
h. Ballots shall not be destroyed without the consent of a majority of the Board of Directors.

6.8 Recounts and Appeals

a. A nominee may request a recount of votes cast, provided such request is made in writing to the electoral committee within seven [7] days following the committee's announcement of election results.
b. A nominee may appeal any decision of the electoral committee to a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Students' Society.
c. Each candidate may call for no more than one [1] recount.

6.9 Electoral Policy of the UVSS

The Board of Directors shall set Electoral Policy to govern the elections of Directors as well as referenda within the rules set out by these bylaws.

a. The Electoral Committee shall be responsible for carrying out the Electoral Policy of the UVSS.
b. Nominees shall abide by all rules set out in the Electoral Policy

Motion GM 02/02/07:02
Be it resolved that Bylaw 25.1 (b) be amended to include Constituency Council and Communications Committee.

Motion GM 02/02/07:03
Be it resolved that Bylaw 2.1 be amended to include a new point "d. all current execuitve directors of the Society."

Motion GM 02/10/17:04
Be it resolved that the following sub-section be added to by-law 13.6 Salary and Honoraria of Executive Directors:
d. Executive Directors who are parents shall receive monthly payments equal to fifty per cent of the cost of their childcare.

6. **Report of the Board of Directors**
7. **Question Period** *limited to 30 (thirty) minutes.*
8. **Report on Finances**
   Motion GM 02/10/17:05
   Be it resolved that the 2001/2002 Audited Financial Statements be accepted.
   Motion GM 02/10/17:05
   Be it resolved that the 2002/2003 Budget be adopted as presented.
   Motion GM 02/10/17:06
   Be it resolved that the Accounting firm Blain Allen Inc. be appointed as the official auditors of the UVSS.
9. **Other Business**
10. **Notice of Motion**
11. **Adjournment**

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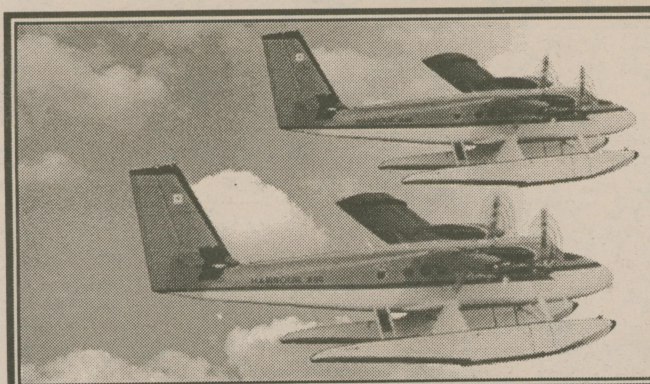

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Fired over toothpicks:

SUB employee claims she faced green discrimination

photo by Jeff Andrew

"There's a holocaust going on in B.C.'s forests, and I don't want to be a part of it," says Janine Bandcroft.

by Jeff Andrew

A dispute over toothpicks caused Janine Bandcroft, an environmental activist and former UVic student, to lose her job in the SUB last week.

On Tuesday, Sept. 24, Bandcroft was dismissed from her job at the Health Food Bar in the Student Union Building after refusing to distribute the toothpicks and paper napkins traditionally provided with soup and sandwiches at the Health Food Bar.

"We gave her the option to follow the procedure or resign," said Food Services Manager Brad Mielke. "She chose to resign."

Bandcroft had worked for Food Services since January 2000. She stopped taking classes in September, but was kept on staff as an "emergency hire" and given a supervisor's position.

Although she had never received any complaints in her previous two years of work, she had a history of not following those operational procedures which clashed with her environmental beliefs.

When Health Food Bar manager Derek Long confronted Bandcroft over her refusal to serve the toothpicks and napkins with orders of food, she objected to what she saw as a waste of forest resources.

"There's a holocaust going on in B.C.'s forests, and I don't want to be a part of it," she said. "They can call it insubordination if they want."

Bandcroft says she belives strongly in environmental preservation, and has repeatedly voiced her opinion to Long and Mielke that animal meat and tree products shouldn't be distributed in the SUB. She said that as a general worker, her disregard for certain procedures was usually tolerated.

However, Mielke said the toothpicks became an issue when she was given the added responsibility of a supervisor's position. Although Food Services tries to accommodate personal beliefs, Mielke said operating procedures must come first, and Bandcroft's refusal to co-operate was becoming a problem.

"She's always had strong views, and we know that," said Mielke. "It's never affected her performance before, but here she left us with no choice."

Bandcroft's dismissal, he said, was the result of her refusal to compromise between her personal values and the responsibility of her job.

"The issue wasn't the toothpicks," he said. "It was the fact that she needs to follow basic procedures."

Bandcroft agrees with him on one point: there was more to her dismissal than toothpicks.

She wants the UVSS to reduce or stop altogether the use of animal and tree products in its building, and argues it is part of the society's mandate to do so.

On page 2 of the UVSS Constitution, one of the organization's stated goals is, "To provide leadership in environmentally responsible practices in all aspects of the society's functions."

T-C strike drags on: Former *Martlet* editor walks the line; elderly fume over TV guide

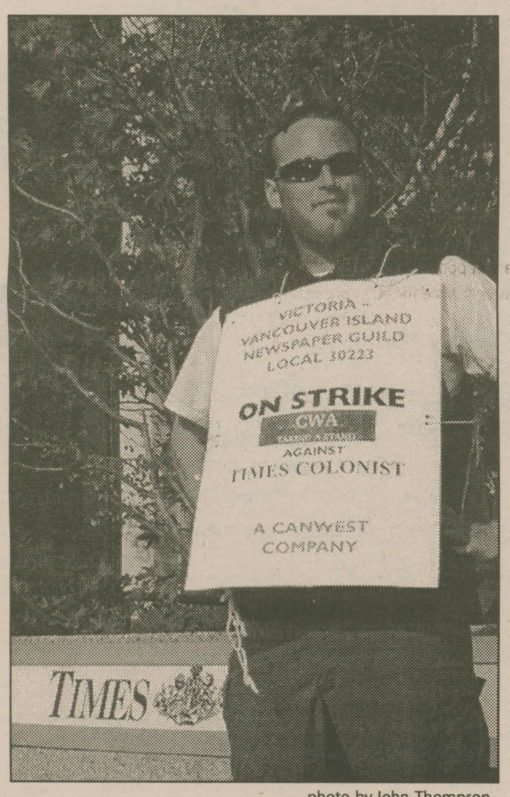

photo by John Thompson

Darren Stewart strikes heroic as he ends his picket shift in front of the *Times Colonist*.

by John Thompson

Cold winds sweep through downtown on Sunday, marking the beginning of autumn and the fourth week of the Times Colonist labour dispute. A procession of strikers trudge back and forth in front of the newspaper's Douglas Street building, their signs flapping in the wind as they pass time with small-talk and gossip.

For Darren Stewart, former Martlet editor and an intern at the TC, news of the strike came as he was breaking a high-profile homicide story in Nanaimo.

"I was pretty disappointed to watch the story come out in the Province in the following days," he says.

Now, instead of life being ruled by deadlines and adrenaline-rushes, time passes slowly on the picket line.

"A lot of old people shout they want their TV Guides back. A lot of bus drivers honk," he says. "This is about it. People bring us donuts. The odd UVic student walks by to the bus stop. I'm really getting sick of it."

Still, today there is hope the strike could soon end. Negotiations between the union and parent company will resume on Tuesday evening.

"I don't know whether I'm optimistic, but the bottom line is that it's a start," Stewart says. Many are concerned if an agreement isn't struck soon, the strike will drag on for months longer. Some are concerned their parent company, CanWest Global, plans to make an example of its Victoria paper, which has one of the media conglomerate's best collective agreements in the country.

"Everybody's got a theory. That's one of them," he says.

Nearby, Chris Carolan, president of the Victoria-Vancouver Island Newspaper's Guild, speaks to a huddle of strikers with the latest news.

"We'll figure out on Tuesday whether it's all fluff, or whether they're serious about it," he says.

The guild represents around 200 of the 275 employees on strike. Carolan says he can't comment further before negotiations take place – both sides have agreed to a news blackout – but according to the guild's website, the company is trying to claw-back benefits negotiated in past years and make it easier to contract-out work. According to the company, diminishing profits over past years means there is less money to spare.

Less money is something everyone on the line has had to adjust to – especially those subsiding on strike pay with families. For five years Louise Dickson has worked the crime beat for the Times Colonist. The mother of two says she's managing to get by, but for others, the situation means having to consider re-mortgaging homes, cashing in savings and cancelling sabbaticals.

"We're okay, but a lot of people had a hard time," Dickson says. "We're just cutting everything right back."

As a reporter, Dickson has covered her share of labour disputes, but she says being on strike came as a major shock.

"It's really surreal for people. It was really hard in September to walk out that office and put on a picket sign," she says. "The next time I cover a labour dispute and I see someone in a picket sign, I'll know what a stressful situation they're in."

"We all love our jobs," she says. "When you're not working, there's a real loss. It would be like if university suddenly stopped."

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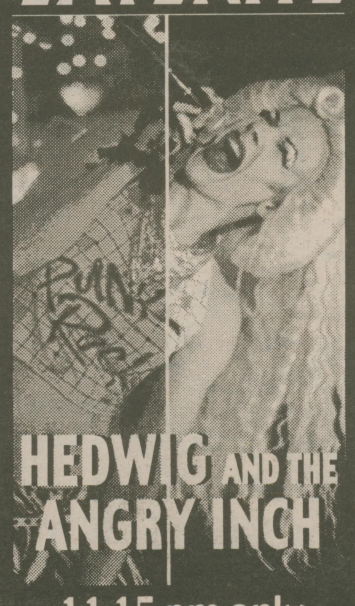

11:15 pm only

SUN 2:30 matinee; 7:10 & 9:00

MON 7:10 & 9:00

Cultural food for critical thought

by Graham Walker

For the second straight year, UVic will confront cultural misunderstanding and celebrate diversity at the Critical Multicultural Dinner.

Held on Oct. 10 in the Michéle Pujol conference room in the Student Union Building, the dinner aims to shed light on classroom issues that are too often left in the dark.

"The dinner is trying to address the systemic problems of the university, in the classroom dynamic, in the administration and also within the curriculum," said Jane Lee of the Women's Studies Outreach and the Students of Colour Collective (SOCC).

"It is basically addressing issues of why marginalized voices aren't being spoken within classes and addressed within a context of knowledge."

The event is a collaborative effort put on by the SOCC, the Society for Students with Disabilities (SSD), UVic Pride and the Women's Centre, along with the Native Students Union (NSU), the Women's Studies Outreach, the Jewish Student Association (CHAI) and the Anti-Racist Action Coalition (ARAC).

"Two of the goals of the Critical Multicultural Dinner are to bring all the advocacy groups together and also to present the university administration with a statement of concern regarding academic curriculum and issues raised by the advocacy groups," said UVSS Director of Academics Robert Oluka. "And I want to see a reply from the university on where it stands on these issues and how we can address them."

As was discovered at last year's dinner, the issue of cultural misunderstanding in the classroom is not simply a case of a few isolated incidents, but actually a more common occurrence than most people realize.

"We want to create a space where people can voice their experiences and their opinions in a safe context," said SOCC Coordinator Adam Rudder. "To talk about those things that are happening to them in the classroom, and how they have been interacting with the course material. And also to create a place where professors, faculty and administration can hear those students and hear some of the problems they are having, because I think a lot of times the professors just don't know."

The event will be divided into two forums: a closed forum from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. reserved for advocacy groups, professors and administration to discuss the issues at hand, and then an open forum from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., which invites the public to join the dialogue in a more informal setting.

During the open forum there will be guest speakers, including First Nations feminist Lee Miracle, various forms of cultural entertainment, and of course dinner.

In addition to having a catered dinner instead of a potluck, changes between this year's event and last year's include the presence of more advocacy groups and more members of administration, such as UVic President David Turpin.

This year's dinner is also taking a more purposeful direction.

"Last year's dinner didn't focus so much on how to implement change, but more or less got people thinking," said Oluka. "So with this next one, now that we've been thinking about it, we want some action done."

At the Critical Multicultural Dinner, even the term "multicultural" itself will be taken to task.

"[The word] 'multicultural' assumes that all the differences are equal, that there are no power differences in Canadian society," said Lee.

"The reason why we've put 'critical' in front of it is because we're going to be interrogating that specific definition. It's a very problematic word."

Calling such issues into question is only part of the Critical Multicultural Dinner's goal.

"We want to create a space where there's a bunch of people of colour together," said Rudder, "and the strength of their combined experiences might move professors and administration to start looking at the ways in which they can change their classrooms and make them more inclusive to marginalized voices."

For more information contact the SOCC at socolour@uvic.ca.

Your number's up, Minister Shirley Bond

UVSS delivers oversized cheque to legislature as tourists gawk

by Suzanne Beaubien

Forty tourists looked on as UVic Students' Society (UVSS) chair Troy Sebastian clutched an oversize cheque and answered questions from local media Monday, Sept. 30.

"Did you win the lotto?" asked their tour leader excitedly, cameras at the ready.

"No," said Sebastian. "The B.C. government did."

To commemorate the recent tuition deadline, the UVSS carried a sizeable "donation" down to the legislature to present to Minister of Advanced Education Shirley Bond.

Sebastian said the large Lotto 649-style cheque, though a worthless piece of poster board, represented the total amount that tuition fee increases at UVic would add to the province's coffers over the next three years.

"This is a cheque from the UVSS to Shirley Bond," said Sebastian. "$36.9 million is the total cost of tuition increases for this year and the following two years."

"There's never been such a windfall for the province," said Sebastian.

Over the next three years undergrad students will pay an average of $2,460 more for tuition, the result of three cumulative increases of 30 per cent.

"There is no guarantee that it won't keep increasing," said Sebastian, citing the lack of legislative restrictions on tuition fees at post-secondary institutions.

The cheque, sporting the phrase "For a new era of gambling with students' future," is part of a new UVSS campaign to raise awareness about the effects of tuition increases at UVic.

"We want to see tuition freeze in this province," said Sebastian. "And, eventually, tuition reduced."

Sebastian, together with Director of Services Michelle Kinney and Director-at-Large Joanna Groves, arrived at the legislature at 10 a.m. to present the cheque to Shirley Bond.

Kinney said the Students' Society kept the group of presenters small so Bond would let them in her office to accept the "cheque."

The group was denied entry to the building, however, after being told Bond was in a meeting.

Sebastian and others eventually took the cheque back to UVic's Student Union Building, inviting the minister to come pick it up anytime.

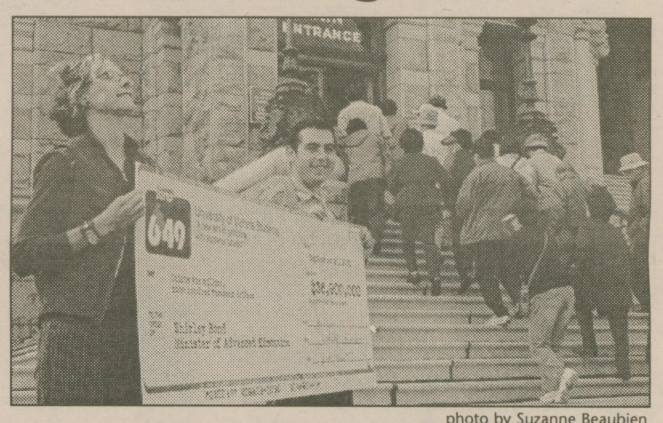

photo by Suzanne Beaubien

"Buddy, can you spare $36.9 million?" Michelle Kinney and Troy Sebastian hold up a tourist-impressing novelty cheque.

Groves said the media stunt's purpose was to inform both students and the public at large about misconceptions surrounding tuition fee increases.

"Most students don't know about the three-year plan," said Groves. ""We're just trying to let people know that tuition increases aren't going to address problems like wait lists and class sizes."

"They're putting costs on students to pay for tax cuts," said Sebastian. "They're driving students out of the province."

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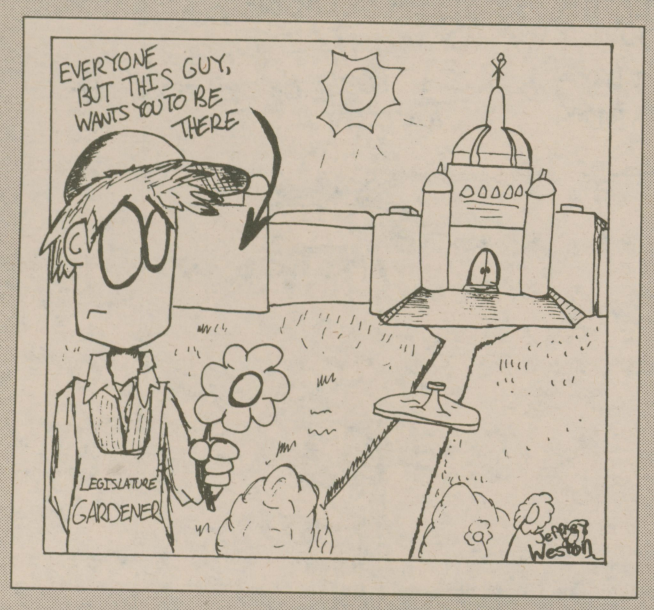

Day of Defiance set on stun

by Matt Bigelow

The University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) will not be officially endorsing the Day of Defiance, the march and rally against the Liberal Government on Oct. 7. However, these groups are distributing posters and are encouraging students to go and participate.

"We haven't got permission for the march," said Melissa Moroz, a member of the Community Solidarity Coalition (CSC), the group organizing the march. "We want to encourage civil disobedience."

"We do not want to encourage violence or for anybody to get hurt," Moroz added, explaining the CSC only encourages non-violent civil disobedience, which could range from hanging banners off of buildings and disrupting traffic to not wearing a uniform to work.

Moroz said they didn't want to preach to people how to protest, and that decisions need to be made by individuals based on their own comfort level with protesting.

The UVSS hasn't endorsed the rally because of uncertainty over what might happen during the protests, Director of Services Michelle Kinney said.

"We take a thorough look into what we endorse because we're accountable for 15,000 students," Kinney said. "It was unclear what was going to happen so we couldn't officially endorse it."

However, Kinney encourages students to go, and the UVSS is distributing posters to increase participation in the march.

Jaime Matten, B.C. chair of the CFS, said her organization isn't on the endorsement list due to timing. The CFS executive committee, which decides what the federation officially endorses, doesn't meet until the end of October. Since the march is on Oct. 7, it would be impossible for the CFS to officially endorse it.

"It's not about the endorsement list," Matten said. "It's about coming out and participating."

There are many groups officially supporting the Day of Defiance and Moroz said that any sort of support is appreciated. "We're just glad to have as many people out as possible," Moroz said. "The Liberals aren't taking a break, and neither can we."

Street satire mocks Premier

Government policies compared to Victorian England

by Suzanne Beaubien

A new form of protest took to the streets on Friday, Sept. 27, as the Victoria AIDS and Resource and Community Services (VARCS) rattled empty cups for "Pennies for the Premier."

The protest, labeled "Alms for the Poor," saw VARCS members and their supporters dressed in Victorian-era rags, rattling cups to protest cutbacks to social programs.

"We're going back to industrial England, in terms of the divide between rich and poor," said Michael Yoder, organizer of the event. "So we've got to dress the part."

Yoder added, "[Finance Minister] Gary Collins said we're a 'have not' province. So because the government is so poor, we thought here is a way to help them out."

Yoder said the group wants to demonstrate how cutbacks to social programs affect many groups of people, including seniors, students and people with HIV.

Yoder said he invited Collins to meet the group at the legislature lawns to collect their donation, but received no response.

VARCS president John Spencer said the protest was a creative way to show people how cutbacks affect everybody, especially HIV patients.

"People with HIV are really frightened right now," said Spencer. "We're supposed to be able to trust our politicians. But it's frightening when they give themselves raises while there are people who cannot pay for basic necessities."

Though the protest ended at the legislature lawns, Yoder stressed it was not a march. Rather, protesters broke up into groups and rattled their cups at pedestrians, following Victoria's panhandling bylaws.

Though the group was small this time, with about 15 "beggars," Spencer said Alms for the Poor will be an ongoing protest.

"Social conscience is only going to get bigger," said Spencer.

"It's not like the province is broke."

He added, "It's about HIV patients, seniors, people with drug and alcohol problems, and the poor in general."

Protesters walking the beat carried signs sporting such slogans as "Human rights are dreadfully expensive. Can you spare a penny to restore them?" and "The feeble and infirm must have care. Can you spare a penny for these unfortunates?"

Many passers by responded with smiles and offers of change. Only pennies were accepted though, as organizers said panhandlers need the larger change.

"Screw the Premier," said one bystander when asked for pennies to fund human rights.

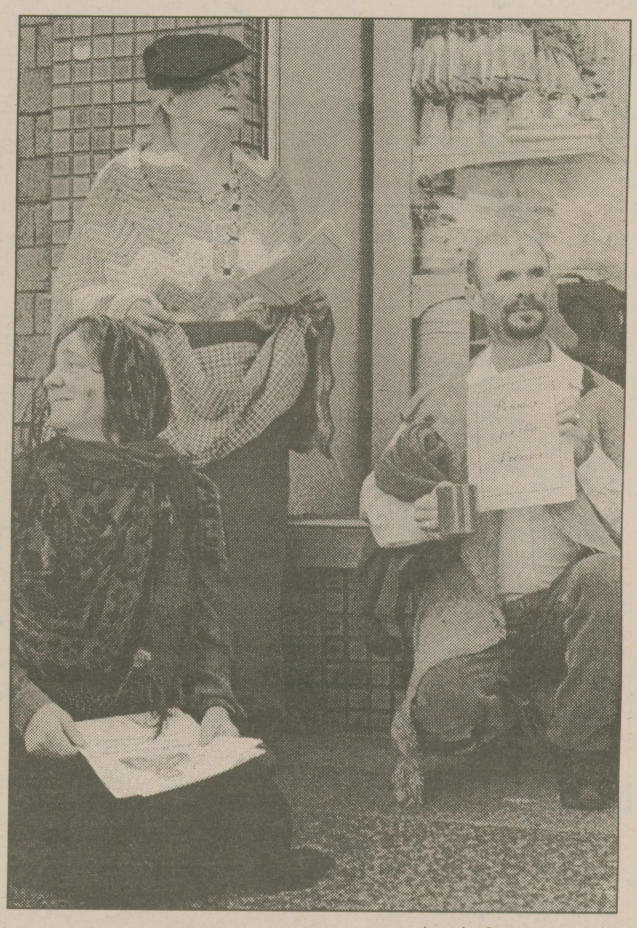

photo by Suzanne Beaubien

Activists on the corner of Douglas and Pandora make like Victorians – from the mid-18th century – to mock government claims there's no money to spare.

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THE JET PROGRAMME

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Consulate General of Japan/Tel: (604)684-5868, ext 223
culturalcentre@consuljpnvan.com
Application Deadline: Postmarked by November 22, 2002

UVIC PRIDE

Coming Out Week

m t w th f

7th	8th	9th	10th	11th
Watch for Speakers and events all week long, or come by our office in the SUB B118	**Come by the UVic Pride Information Table**	**Write Out Loud** an open mic event for queer writers. - 7:30pm	**Watch for Speakers and events all week long.**	**National Coming Out Day** Parade @ Lunchtime Potluck and Dance

Call 472-4393 or email pride@uvss.uvic.ca for more details

Oct 7th-11th

Editorial

God save the Queen.

We mean it, man.

Pro:

The Queen's upcoming visit to Victoria is not an event to be passively overlooked. To celebrate the Queen and her arrival is to celebrate over 130 years of Canadian tradition.

The Queen is the emblem of our political system. If we had an elected head of state, he or she would be selected by a political faction, and thus divided from the people. Our Queen, however, has been raised for her vocation and is non-partisan, uniting her and the people of our great nation. In this regard, when the Queen comes to visit, everybody can participate in the celebrations without fear of political association.

It is this neutral element that is so indispensable in our federal system. Where an elected head of state is only one figure of a central government, the queen is non-partisan between levels of government and can bring together the provinces, the executive, the legislative and the judiciary. More importantly in today's increasing climate of globalization, free trade and impending war, Canada is protected in part by a distinctive and strong constitutional monarchy that will not crumble under foreign pressure.

There is no reason to not respect the Queen. For one not to celebrate the Queen's arrival, after all that she stands for and all the freedoms that she allows, is as good as treason.

The dreamy Prince William

Con:

What an utter load of sycophantic tripe.

"Oh, isn't she lovely," says even the homeless woman about dear Lizzie Windsor, while Her Majesty spends more on silk ass-wipe for her wretched Corgis in one day than the poor woman will ever earn in her lifetime. The idiocy of the Majesty Magazine Brigade boggles us like a thing that is astoundingly, profoundly, exceptionally boggling.

It is to be expected that we may have trouble convincing a number of people of the ills of capitalism - the ordering of society under which we currently live. But to have to spend time in this day and age convincing people of the ills of feudalism - the ordering of society under which we have not lived for four or five hundred years and the remnants of which keep Liz and the rest of her public-revenue-leeching family in gold-plated Weetabix boxes - is akin to convincing people of the demerits of Creation "science" or *Crossing Over with John Edward*.

We should not still have to spend precious minutes of our day attempting to convince people of the silliness of the monarchical system, anymore than we should spend time convincing people that slavery is not very nice.

Peasants in France who could neither read nor comprehend much of the world beyond their village walls over two hundred years ago could wrap their little minds around the idea that a head of state who is so by divine right alone was rather unfair.

An unelected head of state is – and let us write this in bold and with three unecessary exclamation marks, lest anyone skip over this point – **completely irrational!!!**

The monarchy represents an ancient and bloody history of murderous colonialism and domestic repression.

That we should spend money on Prince Big Ears' polo tournaments while single mothers go without food or shelter is pornographic. Those who today find such a situation acceptable are simpletons.

There is no reasonable defence of the monarchy.

Sic semper tyrannis

The dreamy Prince Phillip

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

Don't like what you read?

Write us, or write *for* us: martlet@uvic.ca

I'M THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND! I ENJOY "FRUIT LOOPS" AND INDOOR PLUMBING
I'M AN ENGINEERING STUDENT! I EAT CAT FOOD BECAUSE TUITION IS TOO HIGH
CAT FOOD

Weston

Defy this government

by Ben Isitt

Premier Campbell and the BC Liberal party have declared war on the organizations and well being of workers and their communities, tearing up collective agreements, axing jobs, and slashing social spending to pad the bottom line of the private sector. The provincial deficit has soared to a record $4.4 billion.

The only mechanism for public input is a racist "referendum" aimed at stealing the land-base from First Nations and dividing workers with hateful stereotypes.

Here at UVic, our administration has embarked on a two-year plan to double tuition fees, preventing many working-class youth from pursuing a university education.

President David Turpin takes home nearly $250,000 dollars in wages and benefits each year, gobbling up the tuition fees of 100 students. He has close connections to the CEO of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce, who recently claimed that "we are entering a new phase of economic prosperity and expansion."

Tell that to UVic students who face a $700 increase in tuition this semester, with an $800 increase planned for November. Tell that to a student living out of the trunk of her car because she cannot afford housing.

Tell that to the thousands of students who are locked into a cycle of credit card payments, part-time work, and occasional study, only to spend the first decade after graduation paying off the shareholders of the Royal Bank and CIBC. But those banks "earned" their $10-billion profits and billion-dollar tax cuts through "hard work," I assure you.

Our post-secondary education system and the economics behind it belong in the 19th century. To pursue policies that increase poverty while benefiting the wealthy is amoral. Indeed, the proponents of laissez-faire deserve to be publicly shamed in our communities.

We are told tuition must rise to improve quality. But somehow universities in Sweden and Ireland provide quality education without charging tuition fees. Somehow UVic spends $2 million on an AstroTurf field while our library, laboratories, and classrooms lack adequate resources. Somehow professors receive an increase on their $80,000+ salaries while other workers have their wages frozen and sessional instructors get the perpetual run-around. Shouldn't there be a salary ceiling to control this disparity in wealth?

On Oct. 7, students and community members will be mobilizing in solidarity to put a stop to the November tuition fee hike and the broader neo-Liberal agenda of cutbacks and privatization. The principle that "An injury to one is an injury to all" will be resurrected, and a sustained campaign of civil disobedience and economic disruption inaugurated.

A word of wisdom to UVic Administration: Abandon your scheme to privatize UVic and join the university community in overthrowing the Campbell Liberals on Oct. 7. Your grandchildren will thank you for it.

Ben Isitt , a graduate student with the Department of History , is active with Victoria's Community Solidarity Coalition.

Salman Rushdie:

Not a liberal toady of Yankee imperialism

by Erik Haensel

As someone who attended Salman Rushdie's reading last week, I am having trouble fitting myself into any of the stereotypically slanderous categories that Leigh Philips used to characterize Rushdie's audience in last week's *Martlet*.

I am not a "bipierced and cooler-than-thou English major," nor a "Starbucks-employed graduate student," nor "one of the sort of people to go and see one of the sort of people who rarely visit Victoria." I am simply an interested Salman Rushdie fan, like many others who were there that night.

I was also someone who "actually liked the award-winning little liberal toady of American imperialism."

Whoa, hold on. Award winning? Yes. Little? Well, ya, I guess he's kinda short.

Liberal toady of American imperialism? Not so, bro.

In one of Rushdie's earlier works of non-fiction, *The Jaguar Smile*, he takes a critical stance towards the continued American support of Contra-insurgents forces, and expresses excitement about the prospect of Nicaragua's future as a communist democracy

Now, obviously, Salman isn't quite as radical now as he was then. He seems much more content to voice his views subtly and lyrically, as opposed to forcefully and matter-of-factly. But the point of the matter is that Leigh's assessment of the man -"he is a naïve liberal when it comes to political commentary" - is not only unfair, it is false.

This is not to say that I do not understand where Leigh was coming from. Personally I share, it seems, a similar political outlook, and I must admit that at certain points during Rushdie's bit about Sept. 11th, I was a little let down. I had hoped for more radical statements.

As the night went on though, I noticed that although this wasn't the same fiery Rushdie that I had expected, the sober, aged replacement was still enlightening and effective.

We must learn to dwell not on his lack of banner-carrying antics, but on his skill as a writer, his way with words, his incredible concept carrying imagery.

Rushdie kept the mood light, and his crowd attentive. With a writer such as he, we cannot nor should not expect scathing attacks nor pointed critiques of American policy. We have Noam Chomsky and others for that.

What Rushdie brings is a reference to the everyday, and a simplified, mellower cultural version of dissent that is moving in the same direction, if maybe a few strides behind.

Rushdie spoke of civilization being upheld by the visible world, by what average citizens can see and understand. He spoke about the war on terrorism in a way that I had not heard before.

This fresh perspective put building bombers, secret CIA arrests, unilateral, pre-emptive attacks, and discourses of hatred all in the same realm; the realm of the shadow, or that which is dangerous to democratic civilization.

Rushdie has always fought for free speech, for the importance of un-biased reporting as a staple of the democratic process: let's not stab him in the back.

[2002/2003]
martlet
UVic's Student Paper

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Soapbox

Free tuition cheaper than Olympics

by Troy Sebastian

In the last issue of *the Martlet*, Quinn Newcomb made the argument for tuition increases, stating that it was due to the previous government that students are paying such onerous fees today. He argued that the 30 per cent tuition fee increase was not only necessary, but that students from all across British Columbia were demanding the increase.

Additionally, he stated that the tuition freeze had reduced the quality of education at B.C. post-secondary institutions, and that the only way to fund post-secondary education is through 'fair' increases in tuition and not through the tax system. Throughout his article, he absolves the B.C. Liberal government for all the problems that students are facing.

Yet students know full well that it was the current government that decided to eliminate the tuition fee freeze that saw B.C.'s tuition rates drop from the second-highest to the second-lowest in the country.

They also know that it was the current government that eliminated first year grants.

Government cutbacks have eliminated the B.C. Summer Student Works and Workstudy programmes. While it is true that there are more Workstudy positions available at the university, there is something distastefully ironic in a situation in which student aid programmes are being entirely funded by increased tuition fees. I suppose this is the twisted logic of the B.C. Liberal New Era.

Prior to the loss of the tuition freeze, Shirley Bond, Minister of Advanced Education, held meetings with student representatives from across the province. Time and time again students argued in favour of the tuition freeze and demanded more funding for post-secondary education. These were representatives who were from member and non-member schools of the Canadian Federation of Students.

Surely, Mr. Newcomb does not believe that the CFS has enough influence to dictate the position of the UBC or Okanagan University College student unions on the tuition freeze.

So why were students arguing in favour of a policy that Mr. Newcomb charges is at the root of all that ails post-secondary education in B.C.?

It was the merit of the argument that tuition increases do not result in improved education but reduce accessibility that guided their position. What Mr. Newcomb fails to recognise is that, anywhere you go in the province, tuition increases are not popular amongst students because they reduce accessibility for students, and do not translate into an improved quality of education.

Finally, Mr. Newcomb argued that those who argue for free tuition are in favour of a tax hike of such magnitude that it would be an unbearable cost on the tax system in British Columbia. Let's look at the numbers. The total cost of tuition fee elimination in Canada is $3 billion per year. It would cost approximately $350 million per year to eliminate tuition fees in British Columbia.

For a government to say that it is cash-strapped for students but can afford billions for our Olympic bid is a bit much to digest.

While I too would love to watch Canada win a gold medal in my backyard, I would rather see my children graduate from university without a massive debt. Universal accessibility ought to be the principle that guides public policy when setting tuition fee rates, not tax cuts for the rich.

Troy Sebastian is Chair of the UVic Students' Society.

"My face in your armpit" and other letters

Businessman opposes Liberal policy

This is to express my wish that no part of BC Hydro be privatized via any dealings with Accenture.

I own an electronics manufacturing business in Ottawa and am aware that privatization can bring benefits under some circumstances. My specific concerns on this deal are:

Once privatized, especially to a foreign company, NAFTA and WTO rules will make it almost impossible to unprivatize should this seem expedient in the future. They will also expose B.C./Canada to potential liability under NAFTA/WTO if we try to impose environmental regulations.

We should follow California's lead and refuse to deal with tax haven companies.

I hate to say this, but I do not trust this government to act in the public interest. Even to a businessman like myself, you seem to place corporate interests way higher than you should. Yes, we want a good economy but not at any cost and your actions seem mainly to benefit the big corporations with no clear potential for gain for the citizens of B.C.

Roy Ball

Brainwash this

"Get them when they're young" has been a long standing motto of the tobacco industry. It seems that now, other industries have adopted this ideal.

Last week, I was at the house of a family friend, when I noticed the baby was playing with what looked like a cell phone. I later realized that what I thought was a real cell phone was actually a baby toy. This revelation would have been suprising enough in itself, but the child, who was all of one, pressed a button and a recorded voice said: "Hello, this is Home Depot, your order is on the way." I was shocked. It seemed like the kind of thing you would see in an ADBusters parody, but there it was. New Advertising.

I got another nasty jolt, later that day, when I was looking for a gift for my sponsored child in Jamaica. I came across a tiny T-shirt, sized for a 3-year-old that said "Hilfiger Kids" on the front.

The "Hilfiger" is of course Tommy Hilfiger, the American designer/entrepreneur behind a multi-million dollar fashion empire. Corporations have been known to be unethical, underhanded and sneaky but targeting children for an expensive line of designer products? That's just sick.

Imagine my horror as I walked out of the store, into the main mall and cast my bewildered eyes on a store for which the sign said "Gap Kids." A store dealing in clothing for children the same age as those who make the clothes in the Third World GAP sweat-shops?

Three sightings in one day, when I was not even looking for them. I'm beginning to think that the new media prophets are not exaggerating when they say, though not in so few words, that children are the future of Corporate America.

Trey McNeil

Hummus in class chomps my ass

I love snacks. I really do. I've been known to waste my laundry quarters on a Snickers or maybe even sneak a Pepsi Twist into the library (oops, I did it again!). But we've got to draw the line somewhere. Let's be honest: if you whip out a three course meal during class, you've got some issues.

This year more than ever, I have been assaulted with the rudeness of fellow classmates chowing down during lectures.

Have some consideration for the people around you! Some of what I've seen this year alone includes hummus, sausage, cold pizza, popcorn, sandwiches, and CURRY.

I have two main problems with food in class. First of all, watching and listening to people eat is straight up nasty. Do not assault my eyes and ears with the unpleasantness you bring to that innocent little bag of Doritos. Delicious as they may be, art history class is not the time nor the place to be getting your zesty nacho lovin - just ask anyone within a 10-seat radius.

I have an even bigger issue with the sandwich eaters. Maybe my mom was just really picky, but in my house, we always ate sandwiches over PLATES.

And since when is eating a sandwich a one-handed activity? Watching someone single handedly shovel bread product into their mouth at record speed, while taking notes with the other, absolutely makes me want to gag. Last year, a girl sitting next to me busted out with an egg salad sandwich during a midterm.

I almost cried.

Between loud chewers and noisy wrappers, eating in class isn't a silent activity.

Take it elsewhere, yo.

My second issue with the snackers is the smell.

Tuna. I adore tuna – those Omega-3 things are soooo healthy – but when the stray cats start rolling into Clearihue because they smell your crumbs, you really need to stop. Please.

My suggestion to y'all who think eating in class is appropriate is to have some self control. If you can't go for at least a few hours without a snack, there is professional help available for you. If self control isn't your strong point, how about trying to finish your food BEFORE class starts?

That way you'll also avoid the embarrassment of the prof staring at you in disgust as you feign interest in the lecture material while making love to a bag of chips.

And it's not like we don't have those 10 minutes between classes to do as we please. Don't tell me that's not enough time to eat, because I swear I've seen a dude in class polish off a sandwich in four.

If all else fails, organize your schedule so you have time to chow down in a more appropriate venue. Like at a table. With some napkins. Imagine that.

PS: To the girl in Anthro 306 with the McDonalds (you know who you are) the drive through will INDEED be open after class.

See you there.

Erin Villeneuve

Out of her hula-hoop. Now.

I have a problem with the lack of bus etiquette amongst UVic students.

Don't get me wrong. It's great to use the bus - "Go Green" and all that. My problem is with people who take the bus, but get off at one of the first few stops. A ten minute walk will not hurt you. Your ass will thank you for walking instead of sitting on the bus when you are trying to squeeze into your G-string on Thursday nights.

Do you remember in grade school when you learned aboout personal space? Think of it as being inside a hula-hoop. I stay inside my hula-hoop. You are not to enter my hula-hoop. Back off.

Is it really necessary to stand over me when I'm sitting in an aisle seat? Just because you may not have problems with people inside your personal space, does not mean I do not.

Also, why the Hell are you staring at me? If there is something wrong with me, please tell me. Don't just gawk at me the whole flipping bus ride. Seriously. If you wanted to creep me out, you've succeeded.

I have devised a list of five simple rules which people should take a look at and consider prior to or while boarding the bus:

1) Do not push people out of the way so that you can have a seat if you are going to be getting off at one of the first stops. Damn yo.

2) Do not eat foods with mysterious odours.

3) Please people - no flatulence. Especially when the bus is crowded.

4) Remember: deodorant or antiperspirant is your friend.

5) Please keep personal conversations to an appropriate volume. I really don't want to know about your sex life. You got it on last night? That's swell.

I'm thankful that I ride the bus only when it is necessary for me to leave campus, and do not have to ride it in order to get to class.

If I had to have my face in your armpit every morning, I'd go fucking nuts.

Tiffany Rowse

God gave rock and

by Zoë Bake-Paterson

At the very edge of the stage, a woman is wedged in between two speakers. Directly in front of her is Dan, the lead singer of All State Champion. The woman leans onto the stage, her cropped red head bob-bobbing along with the music. She is one of the few people in the room who is not wearing black.

A shaggy black-haired man beside you points her out and says something about "rocking out." You feel him speak into your ear, but the sound is obliterated by the music. The bass line physically rolls into you and fills any available space. It speeds up your heartbeat and pushes out some adrenaline.

Everybody wants to be a rock star.

This is something I discovered while playing my first chord on a cherry-red Hendrix style electric guitar. With the guitar cradled into my body and the amp cranked, my wobbly version of "House of the Rising Sun" was up there with the bloody best. My one-song masterpiece, known for making dogs run and hide under beds when played on an acoustic, became an exquisite mix of noise and vibrating energy.

I was "rocking out."

The sound of fingers tripping over strings produced a sound that blasted through the room, so loudly that my knees shook. Every available space was consumed by the noise of electric music. I know little about playing, and less about guitars themselves, but my 15-minute stint as a rocker chick was the highlight of my musical career. Even if I was only playing to a caffeine-junkie co-worker in the back room of an abandoned house. But in that moment, I realized that I too wanted to be a rock star.

But my musical talents are lacking. Greatly. I sing at birthdays, occasionally in cars, and can once in a while be dragged drunkenly into karaoke.

Aside from posing as a rock star, which has its kicks, I joined the long tradition of fans who support indie music.

There is something phenomenal about live music. More than just being blasted by noise, it taps into all your senses. Sound becomes visual. It's the thrill of seeing performance art; no show is ever the same. Unusual things happen all the time. For instance, I once saw the drummer of Speed to Kill dive-roll over the drum kit at the end of a set.

The best shows are the small ones - untapped talent playing in local bar halls and lounges. When it's so small that the band is a couple of metres in front of you and everything is on the verge of invading your space because it's all so loud and sweaty.

Don't let the intimate environment fool you. Indie music is raw and usually dirty. It has grit. That's why it's independent and not corporatized slick and slime. The indie music scene is a vast source for finding local or lesser-known bands once it has been tapped into. The styles and sounds vary dramatically, as does the skill. But there is something for everyone.

Getting into the scene, knowing where to start: that's the pissiest part of indie music. It's also the most eventful because you never know what's in store.

Rule #1: Begin with the local newspaper.

If you're lucky, this will give you band names, clubs and addresses. The method falls short, however, when the newspaper listings only include the band name headlining the evening. It's damn near impossible to know who is playing where when most shows have two or three bands on the bill.

Rule #2: Avoid large venues.

Indie doesn't happen in football stadiums or concert halls. That's way too clean for the alternative sounds coming out from the local scene. Besides, where's the intensity in a concert where the performers are the size of insects?

Venue preference is individual, it depends what you want, and what you crave. Mount Pleasant drummer Jeff Kinnon preferred the now-defunct Starfish Room in Vancouver and the members of Brundlefly like the Black Dog in Edmonton.

Venues have reputations. Steamer's Pub in Victoria tends to go on the lighter side of indie, the Piccadilly Pub in Vancouver is indie rock central, the Cobalt in Vancouver is hardcore-thrasher-metal punk, and Ted's Wrecking Yard in Toronto goes for experimental alternative sounds.

Neighbourhood bars – like Thursday's Pub – host a wide selection of bands, usually local ones, playing from week to week. That helps ease the headache of picking the band that you wanna hear.

Rule #3: Prepare to take the good bands with the gaggingly bad.

There will always be numerous band names to choose from:

The Salteens, Brundlefly, Mount Pleasant, the Strokes, Billy the Kid and the Lost Boys, Pricks, Veronica Tangent, Beans, Young and Sexy, Slow Nerve Action, All State Champion, Do Make Say Think, Pigeon Hole, the Breeders, Operation Make-out, Alcoholic White Trash, Speed to Kill, Mollies Revenge, Flannel Jimmy, the Malchiks, Ghosts, Johnny Action Figure, P:ano, Ten Days Late, the Smugglers, Ten Inches of Blood, Wave of Mutilation, Microphones, Rainspider.

Some names conjure up images of what to expect. Ten Inches of Blood leaves little to the imagination: hard and fast. Exactly what I experienced at their show. Now, on to:

Rule #4: To discover a bit about the bands, don't count on the one- or two-word wishy-washy descriptions in the paper: "well-rounded," "authentic" or "traditional."

How do you describe music?

"Dreamy pop" is how Brundlefly describe their sound. Mount Pleasant prefer "Alt pop" - whatever that means.

Even asking can do little to broaden the idea of a band's sound because often people refer to one band by likening it to another. Both Mount Pleasant and Brundlefly have been compared to mainstream English bands like Travis and Coldplay, yet none of the four bands sound the same.

Rule #5: Pay attention to rumours.

Local rumours are a good place to tap into the music scene, but this usually involves having your foot in the door.

Otherwise, knowing that Mount Pleasant has former band members from the Lily Frost band (unconfirmed) or that one of Brundlefly's managers was the drummer in Mollies Revenge (confirmed), won't mean anything.

Rule #6: Pick band names at random.

If the name sounds familiar, chances are the band's been around a while, which means it's probably got a damn good sound (or, at least, a fan following).

If you're really stuck, pick a name that intrigues you – at worst, you can guzzle the night painfully away. If you spot other musicians from local bands in the crowd, it's a good sign.

Rule #7: On the night of the show, aim to arrive early.

Timing is the key thing here, because arriving two hours early, even if by accident, is a bit excessive. I learned the hard way. It can work to your advantage, however, because the only people around that early are the band members and the staff. And it can be fun to chat up the band.

Who doesn't want to make friends with the rock stars of the night?

Besides, how else will you learn that Brundlefly's Ian Somers is referred to as the "Champeeno," or that Glen Delukas had a traumatic airplane experience while flying to Greece at age 11, or that Jeff and Chris Kinnon of Mount Pleasant are actually brothers?

Rule #8: Look out for the sound check.

This is a potentially painful experience, while bands tune the sound into place, but it can give you a feel for the show to come. Brundlefly tune up with "Hot Summer Dry" – a mellow tune, and a good example of their characteristic "dreamy pop."

photo by k records, courtesty of CFUV

Rippin' out indie riffs, the Microphones perfect their indie pop, chamber rock low-fi, jam band, mid-tempo rock and roll. Whatever the hell that is.

roll to you

Getting to grips with Indie Rock

Sound checks are also a good indicator of where the volume level will be set. When Brundlefly and Mount Pleasant played Thursday's Pub recently, it was at a "normal" rock/pop/alternative level: loud enough that conversation is basically ridiculous unless you move to the back of the bar, but not loud enough to knock you over.

Rule #9: Familiarize yourself with the bar.

If you are particular about your seating, stake it out early. There is nothing worse than ending up beside the speakers, unless you want to be tone deaf the next day, or if you were prepared enough to bring ear plugs.

Live music seems to be based on the idea that not only should the people at the back be able to hear you, they should have to hear you. Fortunately, when listening to Brundlefly and Mount Pleasant, that's a really good thing.

Rule #10: Locate and test the bathrooms.

Two words: *Bathroom acoustics*. Trust me.

My own roots begin and end with the "House of the Rising Sun." Indie music isn't just about rock though. Even if everyone does want to be a rock star. If only for a few minutes. There are many scenes: folk, ska, punk, and metal all thrive independently. Dedicated fans keep flocking to the shows. Occasionally a scene may wither, but soon it will be revived. Take the hootenanny/hoedown vibe that is taking the indie scene by storm with its far-from-rock bluesy twang.

Whichever genre gets you going, it's all about the same thing: living in the music, feeling the intensity of sound.

The tempo slowly builds, a pulsing that moves the crowd. The lead starts to cry as he spits out the lyrics of the last song, tears creeping down his cheeks and the whole audience has their eyes riveted to the stage. With a crashing climax, the set is over and the band, All State Champion, hustles off-stage while the crowd of 40 or 50 people roars and cat-calls, then drifts back to their beers. The young woman at the front sags into the stage: she looks spent and is openly crying and smiling.

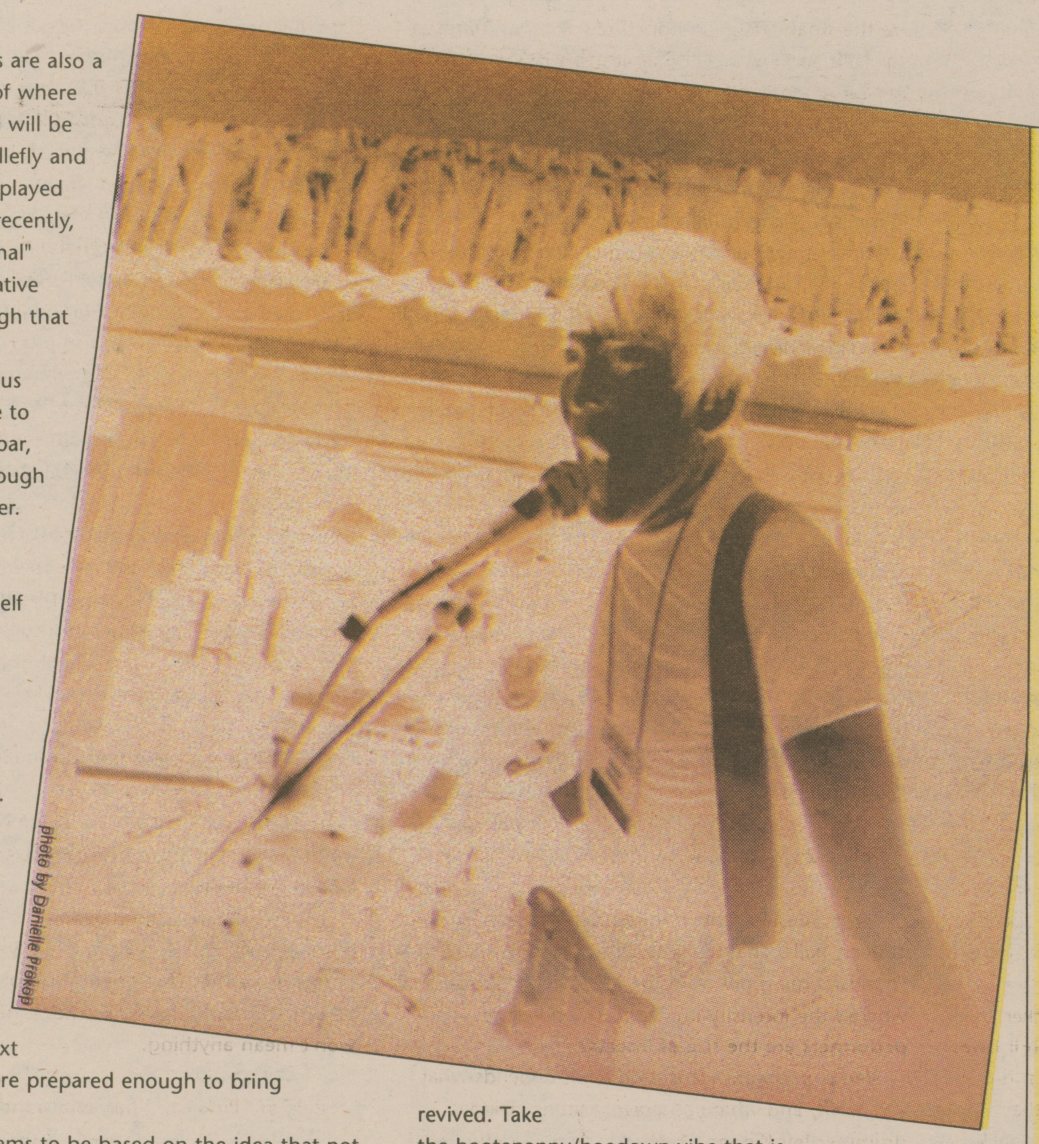

photo by Danielle Prokop

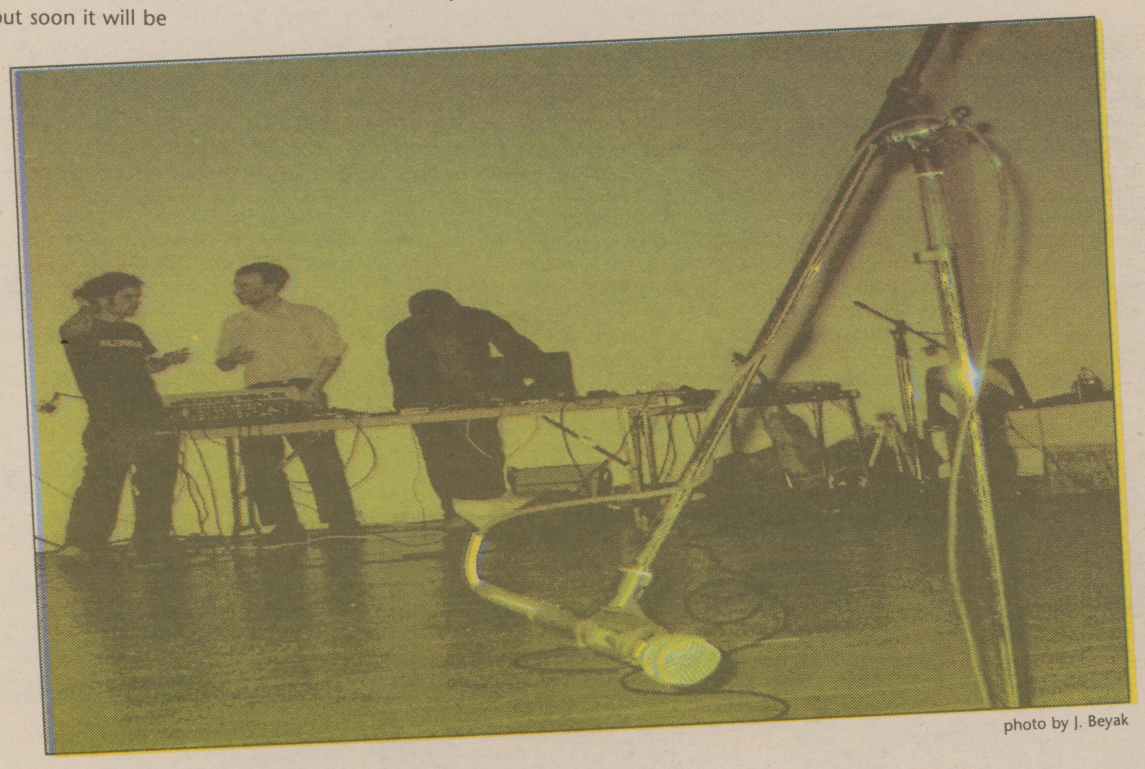

photo by J. Beyak

Check this: it's all about the music - the intensity of sound.

Determining the indie lingo

Emo - short for emotion or emotional. Usually applied to rock bands who are emotional or really into their music. "Emo-core: Hard core music that gets into emotion." - Ian Somers (Brundlefly) (example: All State Champions)

Riff - sequence of notes or chords, usually played on guitar or bass.

Front Lining - Describes the person who is the lead singer/lead guitarist, or a person who just sings with a band and doesn't play. Can be used to describe the set up of a band when it is performing- the person front lining is the one positioned front, centre stage.

Pop - "popular" music. Originally British, now very Americanized. Usually associated with Top 40 mainstream or such iconic musicians as the Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Michael Jackson, Madonna, and U2. Also used to describe a type of upbeat or lighthearted music. Paired with description words to describe a new sound – "power pop," etc.

Dreamy Pop - "Pop that takes you to a place that is about more than just tapping your foot." - Shane Turner (Brundlefly)

Euro Pop - popular music in Europe, more upbeat and peppy than American Pop.

Indie - Independent. Technically a band connected to a small independent record label, but has come to include most alternative non-mainstream or commercialized music. Usually not well-known music. (Examples of indie labels: Teenage Rampage Records, Lookout Records, Punch Media Inc., Righteous Babe Records....)

Indie Rock - a certain type of rock and roll. Usually raw, and hard, but not exclusively so. Basically any kind of rock that is outside of the popular "corporate rock" sound. Often described as classic or original rock and roll.

Garage Band – originated in the mid-1960s, describing proto-punk music. Still refers to bands who play in that style.

Post Punk – music experimentation, bands that have abandoned traditional rock styles, especially late 1970s and early 1980s British rock.

Riot Grrrl – Girls with guitars. Began in the late 1980s. Loud abrasive punk rock sound and attitude with feminist politics.

Math Rock – Angular and complicated, scientific formulas used to determine how the beat is going to go. "Progressive meets punk."

Kiddie Core – Cutesy pop. Usually applied to cute girl bands like Cub. "Über fey."

Chamber Pop – Orchestrated chamber music mixed with indie pop.

The Imaginary Invalid: The play that killed Molière

by Katrina Sark

UVic's Phoenix Theatre kicks off its new season with Molière's *The Imaginary Invalid*, a comedy about a hypochondriac who delights in his imagined illnesses.

Molière, who loved to ridicule the weaknesses and foolish actions of the people of his time, died in 1673 while playing the lead part in *The Imaginary Invalid*. The play has been considered politically controversial because of Molière's use of elements to reveal the frailties of both doctors and patients. It promises to be a theatrical treat with a combination of styles to create a non-classical piece.

Director Roy Surette, known for his hits at the Belfry Theatre, is taking a new approach to Molière's comedy. Surette wants to get away from the strict "museum piece" and give the production a more contemporary feel. Having looked through different translations of the play, Surette was intrigued by Milles Malleson's adaptation from the 1950s, which had a certain "I Love Lucy" sensibility.

"It was interesting to choose Molière in Malleson's adaptation," Surette says, "because we can poke fun at the sense of stature and society, rather than simply deliver the message: doctors don't know what they are doing."

Despite this adaptation, the crew encountered some difficulties with dense and old-fashioned dialogue. "We did some trimming of the dialogue because some things repeat themselves," Surette says. "Audiences today are used to quick and snappy language and it is a challenge for the actors to wear that vocal mask."

Melody Anderson, the designer who recently presented her creations in *The Art of Masks*, has created masks to suit the individual actors.

The characters must have perfect articulation and gaze because the whole body becomes engaged when a mask is worn. The masks force the actors to express the character through the body and thereby reveal the essences of humanity and unmask the heart of the character.

"The mask increases physical awareness on stage," Surette says. "I have worked with Melody Anderson a lot and asked her to come on board with this project. Her masks add dimension to the show. They demand a certain level of performance."

The set is a mix of period pieces and '50s style, built around a medical chair that reminds Roy Surette of a grasshopper. "We chose the hospital green colour as the background to the play because it is bright, lively, and it might make you sick," Surette laughs, "but mostly we tried to keep the focus on the actors, keeping the set simple."

Much of the music in *The Imaginary Invalid* was composed, arranged, and recorded by two of the performers, Mitch Pollock and Alexander Ferguson.

"I hope the play will create its own unique world that is big and broad, surreal, and somewhat of a post-modern interpretation," Surette says. "Everyone will be very lively and filled with passion. We will try to get to a level where one can't get to other than in theatre."

The Imaginary Invalid opens on Oct. 10 (there will be two preview performances on October 8 and 9 for $5).

Sampling SATCO's

by Sarah Hutchinson

The Student Alternative Theatre Company (SATCO) has been adding to the palate of plays at the Phoenix Theatre for many years.

SATCO plays are very distinct in that they are full of dedication, vivid imagination, and the desire of young theatre students to put their ideas before an audience.

Anything goes with SATCO plays. Artists have free reign once their ideas are approved. *Mixed Paper Only*, a recent SATCO production, is a great example of this artistic freedom.

When an audience sits down to watch a play, they generally expect young actors reciting Shakespeare or doing crazy movement pieces with bongo drums (depending on your venue of choice).

But what about puppets?

How about a giant cardboard T. rex with moveable parts? No? Well, this is what the audience got with *Mixed Paper Only*. They were taken through the adventures of a main character (a human figure made of crumpled paper and masking tape) who had to deal with several obstacles such as an extremely hot, menacing sun and a T. rex. In the midst of these encounters was the meeting and falling in love of Delores and Hershey, two monsters- one made entirely of tin foil.

While the ideas were random and the plot hard - if not impossible - to follow, the characters were funny and original, and their encounters hysterical.

The overall feeling of anticipation in the audience was evident throughout the performance. It was definitely a smash.

"SATCO's are always successes!" says director Mike Ferguson. "They let you do what you want as an artist, and you can't find that anywhere else on the island."

This year's first SATCO was a hit, and there are still more to come.

This week, playing Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 4:30 p.m. in the Phoenix Theatre, is *Vigil*, directed by Jen Braem.

So if you think SATCO sounds like an interesting excursion, come on down with your twoonies (suggested donation) and see what they've got in store for you.

Jane's chimps run amok on the big screen

photo provided

by Berkley Brady

The new IMAX film Jane Goodall's *Wild Chimpanzees* begins with archival footage of the young scientist as she waits for her first encounter with the chimps. It takes months of this waiting before the chimps trust Goodall enough to venture down from the trees.

Forty-two years later, Goodall's research project at Gombe Stream National Park, Tanzania, is the longest-running effort of its kind in history. The scientists have since observed the chimps create tools and pass on unique cultural traits. The development of DNA analysis has also enabled them to discover that chimps are almost 99 per cent genetically identical to human beings.

"The parallels are crazy," says research scientist Elizabeth Vinson Lonsdorf, who appears in the IMAX film.

In West Africa, chimps are threatened by poachers. In one instance, the Goodall Institute rescued a baby chimp who was on sale, chained to his butchered mother's carcass, in a market. The traumatized baby was moved to an island reserved for orphaned chimps. Once a chimp is taken out of the forest he or she can never return.

With the exception of cases where the chimps are ill or hurt by human influence, the researchers don't interfere in their lives.

"We don't want to alter their behavior at all," says Lonsdorf. "We stay back and let what happens happen. It's not our right to say which chimp should live and which one shouldn't."

This hands-off policy can be very difficult. After so many hours of close observation, the researchers become attached to the chimps. While the chimps inside Gombe are relatively safe, those outside of the small park are not. Along with the bush-meat trade, deforestation is rapidly destroying chimp habitats. An aerial shot in the IMAX film traces the park boundary from above. The left side of the screen is lush green. To the right, the forest is gone and the hills are bare.

The issue is a difficult one. "These amazing animals are really threatened," Lonsdorf says. "Unless we do something, they're going to be gone."

The informative and moving IMAX film about Goodall and her work is currently on at the Royal BC Museum.

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SUB B011

New music grabs Victoria by bullhorn

by Steven Craik

On Sept. 24, the Fernwood Difficult Music Society, in association with the Victoria Mainstream Acoustic Jazz Foundation, presented Òstay down!!!!!, a concert of new music, at the Fernwood Community Centre. This musical variety show was the first in a series of new music concerts that will continue throughout the year. The avant-garde music-filled evening consisted of compositions by locals Connor Ferster; Rachael Wadham; Rachael Goma; Dave Chokroun; Chedo Barone; and eldrich priest.

The evening began with Connor Ferster's "Amy Confectionary," a quartet piece for a stand-up bass, a drum set, and a singer with a megaphone and an alarm clock. Containing mostly vowel sounds, and a sensitive use of silence, this piece was one of the most engaging of the evening.

Following it was "Sideways thinking from a color blind synaesthesiac" by eldrich priest. This piece, for bowed saw, electric guitar, and harmonica, sounded like a duel between feuding radio waves.

Other highlights from the show included Rachael Goma's "Piananna" for prepared piano, a highly rhythmic minimalist piece, full of plucks, twangs, clinks and the occasional note.

Dave Chokroun disturbed the audience with his piece for toy piano and bass drum, called "A different phone ringing, which no-one else could hear." It was about as pleasant as a cell phone at a memorial service - probably Chokroun's exact intent.

Chedo Barone's "Symphony" was a clever use of single tones with well-structured embellishments, incorporating tenor sax, clarinet, flute and flowerpots.

The highlight of the evening was Rachael Wadham's "Happy Birthday Gabey Baby." This drunken celebration - for tenor sax, bassoon, violin, clarinet, clarinet mouthpiece, party whistle and clown horn - is what a true party song should be: a warped polka that would make Tom Waits envious, complete with an 80-proof bassoon bass line, a duck fight and a sloshed version of happy birthday. It was a perfect end to a refreshing concert.

But, most impressive was how all the performers seemed to know each other so well musically. Each performance, with the exception of the odd broken clown horn, was presented with considerable fluidity. The audience reaction was positive and encouraging, despite the occassional boo.The next concert in this series is on Oct. 19, same bat time, same bat channel (8 p.m., Fernwood Community Centre). It will be a collection of children's songs written on toy instruments.

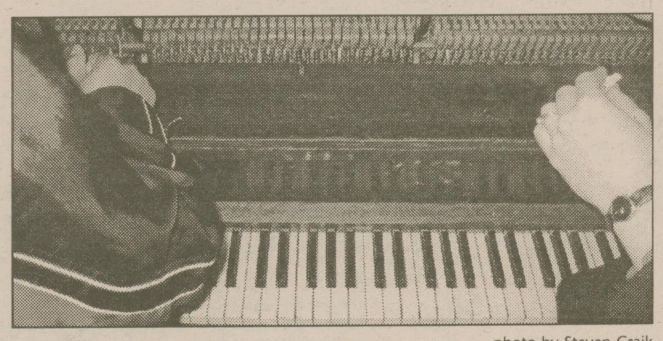
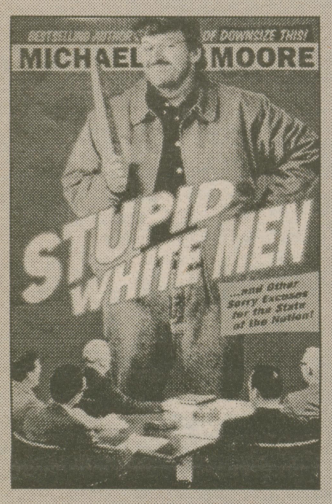


photo by Steven Craik

Making weird and wonderful with new composers.

Moore *Stupid* hoopla



by Graham Lancaster

Michael Moore
Stupid White Men
Regan Books

Michael Moore forced himself into the pop culture consciousness a decade ago with the groundbreaking documentary film *Roger and Me*. Moore continues to offer his alternative look at America, with his latest book *Stupid White Men*.

The book takes a funny but critical look at the state of modern America from the top down, exploring the reasons for its decline. Written in a wonderfully sarcastic tone, Moore explores frustrations many people have with George W. Bush, his administration, and corporate America.

Stupid White Men was written and submitted for publication before the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre last year. It gives the reader a refreshingly honest view of the American President – something lacking in most post-9/11 media coverage.

Stupid White Men covers a range of topics with the purpose of answering one question: "Who are the bastards responsible for fucking up the country?" Of course it starts with Bush – the "Thief in Chief," as Moore calls him.

We all know that "Dubya" was a boob before 9/11, and that he hasn't really changed. If you disagree, this book will likely change your mind. Of course, even Bush couldn't screw up a whole country on his own, and Moore shows us how much help he had.

Stupid White Men looks at the shady connections of the Bush administration, and shows us exactly what kind of opposition the Democrats offer.

Despite its easy-to-read style, *Stupid White Men* is a modern masterpiece of political and social self-examination. Get this book. If you don't like it, at least you will sound smart at parties.

Garage Sale is a real good find

by Katrina Sark

Garage Sale is a perfect depiction of the chaos and lunacy we experience in our everyday life struggles. Confusion and humour intertwine in this spectacle of primitive passions.

The story is moving in its simplicity and its immediacy. It tends to pierce the audience straight through their hearts. It forces them to relive their own day-to-day struggles at the same time.

The high energy of the play, where petty exclamations meet silent revelations, is magically spread through the air, wafting into the lungs of the audience, contagiously charging their hearts with joy. The characters, whose hearts are "like fireworks," enter and exit the stage with the rhythm of a heartbeat - dancing, fainting, screaming, looking for the missing dog - all the while trying to sell some old belongings.

The story is about being at one's best in day-to-day life. It is about family and the things that tend to be most important in our lives (like an old pair of hockey skates for some people, or a home for others). *Garage Sale* is also about the things we tend to misunderstand the most. All this is presented in a wonderfully crazy atmosphere of a family just like yours, in a house on a street just like yours, with parents, siblings, and neighbours just like yours.

Director Nicola Cavendish does a wonderful job of allowing the audience a glance into the hearts of the play's characters. Her directing style superbly communicates difficult meanings in the most simple and charming ways.

All the actors deliver great performances, keeping the audience on the edge of their seats until the very end of the play. The set design is appropriate and highly comical. The presence of so much junk on stage signifies the humanity of the subject. By bringing more and more boxes of personal stuff onto the stage, the actors reveal their hearts and souls. They convey an unforgettable impression, and an unforgettable experience, to the audience.

The concept of *Garage Sale* is throwing-out accumulated personal junk and letting it loose into the world. By watching other people rummaging through and reacting to it, we get a sense of what we need, want, and, maybe, of who we are.

I strongly suggest that you watch this play. And maybe afterwards stop by a garage sale. You never know what you might find.

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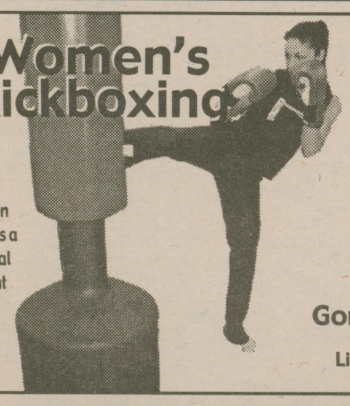

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Langham Court goes *Animal Kingdom*

by Colin Plant

The butler did it! No, he didn't. The young architect did. No, he couldn't have. How about the aging army major? Maybe. The mysterious Italian? Could be.

Who did it?

Well you'll have to head down to the historic Langham Court Theatre this October to find out.

I'll give you a hint though. It isn't the butler. Why? Because there is no butler in the play!

After 50 years of being staged internationally, Agatha Christie's classic whodunit *The Mousetrap* is still going strong, despite having no butler. But, as the Victoria Theatre Guild opens its 74th season, one has to ask, why does the play remain so popular? The script is uninspired, lacking any reasons why we should care about the characters.

Sure, we have the typical cast of quasi-interesting screwballs, etc., but the denouement is so terribly written that all the characters seem to be made out of cardboard. To make things worse, when the murderer is finally revealed, in a rather unimaginatively staged sequence, the audience is somehow manipulated to feel sorry for the culprit.

The Mousetrap is an evening of terror, suspense, intrigue and mediocre melodrama, as the snowbound guests of Monkswell Manor come to realize that one amongst them is a murderer who has earlier that day committed a homicide in nearby London.

As the evening progresses, another guest is murdered. Although the circumstances surrounding the murder in London are cleverly detailed by the radio and evening paper, the reasons why the murderer conducts himself the way he does seem ridiculous and unbelievable.

The cast's abilities are mixed. While Victoria theatre veterans Roger Carr, John Cope and Paul Terry are experts at playing their characters' idiosyncrasies to their maximums, others appear lost onstage and are unable to add to the intrigue of the evening.

The production's design elements are solid, if not spectacular. Graham Thomson's box set facilitates the action of the play adequately, and Karrie Wolfe's lighting design is appropriately unnoticeable. Ann Marie Arneson's costumes are functional and set the play appropriately in the early 1950s.

My only design criticism would be that I wish there had been more of a sound design to add to the atmosphere.

If you have never seen *The Mousetrap*, try and get down to see this production so that you can add it to your theatre-attending resumé. However, if you have seen it before, you probably won't mind missing this version, as it is merely an adequate production.

The Mousetrap runs until Oct. 12. For more information or tickets call 384-2142.

Dink art

by Suzanne Beaubien

Simon Bradley gets paid to play with himself, though his grandma doesn't know it yet.

"Grandma," he might say, "I'm a penis puppeteer. People pay $46.25 Canadian to watch me turn my John Thomas into an Eiffel Tower."

Bradley and his partner-in-puppetry Richard Sutherland are the two units behind the Australian hit show Puppetry of the Penis, which opens at the McPherson Playhouse Friday, Oct. 4.

Only eight puppeteers perform the show worldwide (in duos), and it's their second visit to Victoria.

Clad only in shoes and capes, the two manipulate their genitals into installations that resemble a hamburger, the Eiffel tower and other inanimate objects before hundreds of people every night.

"Being an exhibitionist helps," says Bradley. "I've always been infamous for dropping my pants and pulling it out after the footie game."

Three-by-six metre video screens will display close-up shots of the young men's willies. "It's great," says Bradley. "I have a four-metre penis."

Bradley's favourite trick is the "hamburger," an installation in which his testicles resemble two buns and his penis is the meat. Just picture it.

This is Bradley's first visit to Canada and, though he says the response has been great, people here are somewhat more reserved than audiences in his native Australia.

"They're pretty rowdy back home," Bradley says. "They like the footie. People here are more conservative."

Bradley said the show is entirely non-sexual and all installations are performed with a flaccid penis.

"I've got great control," he says, "and if things get out of hand, I take one look at Richard and everything's fine."

Bradley said he loves his job; he gets to travel and only has to work an hour or two a day.

"All men play with their penises," says Bradley. "I just get paid for it."

Antimatter goes out with a phoof!

by Jessica Verhagen

The Antimatter Festival of Underground Short Film and Video wrapped up last Saturday with *Antibody*, the perennial show stopper. The evening, comprised of the two shorts, "Queen Bee" and " In Praise of Shadows," was completely sold-out. Perhaps that was what misled me to anticipate an intelligent, insightful, and artistic performance.

"The Queen Bee" operates on the premise that humanity's evolution has proved to be fruitless and that we were better off as amphibians. Sounds like it has some potential. The Disney documentary style at the beginning of the film even evoked some laughter.

From there, it's all downhill. Using three or four different projections, two images of the Queen are coupled with an image of the queen bee, which wouldn't be so horrible if it didn't go on for 10 minutes, only to be followed by repeated shots of drone bees and monotonous human and machine labour for another 15 minutes!

Even though there is some good cinematography here, it's not enough. Also, the narration is blurred and the music doesn't always correspond with the mood the film is trying to capture.

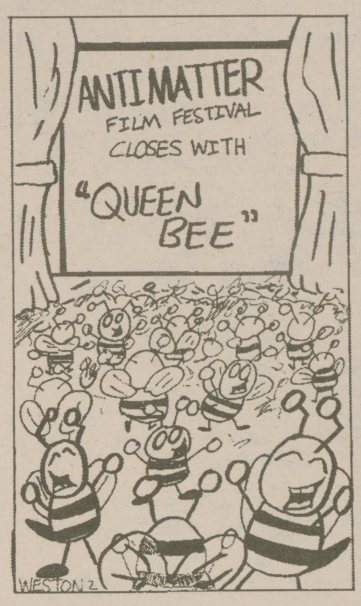
Although I wasn't thoroughly impressed with "The Queen Bee," nothing could have prepared me for "In Praise of Shadows."

Basically, light moves around the screen.

I thought that I just didn't get it. But, come to think of it, neither did anybody else. Most people started talking and others just got up and left.

Apparently, according to the blurb describing "In Praise of Shadows" in the Antimatter guide, the film is about "the effects of technology and changing values on our physical and philosophical environments." It's supposed to be "simultaneously rewarding and challenging for the audience."

Huh?



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The Martlet has a number of double passes for a preview screening of *White Oleander* at 7pm on Wednesday, October 9th at Silvercity Tillicum.

Just come down to *the Martlet* office (sub b011) and tell us what a white oleander is, or what you think it might be. You don't have to be right.

So, get creative and come entertain us.

We're waiting...

Days of the jackal

***Martlet* Production Co-ordinator Stewart Wood hates sports. Do not fuck with him. Please.**

by Stewart M. Wood

A recurrent scene from my childhood: snow settling over a darkling field. A frosted playground patterned only by the crisscrossing of bird footprints. Screams shatter the silence. Coughing and hacking, testicles shriveled to the size of peanuts, I am made to stand with strange boys. Sexually frustrated gym teachers order us into a chilly mudbath to engage in the war-by-proxy that is rugby.

I want to be very clear about this: I don't dislike sports. I *loathe* them. Games are fun. Sports are not fun. I have this on good authority.

I am a delicate angel.

"Just to start us off lads," said deputy fuckwit Mr. Green, overenthused, knuckles dragging along the ground, "we'll play for ten minutes without any rules."

I am, god knows, not a smart person. That day, however, I made the first genuinely insightful decision of my life.

There are moments when timing is essential. The sexual climax. Folding at poker. Seeing the morbid school years that stretched ahead, I recognized that establishing a reputation early on meant that I would either be eaten by jackals or be one of the jackals. I chose the latter, and, turning to the poor eejit that stood shivering next to me, struck him, hard, on the nose.

Poor Geoffrey Plant. I don't suppose he ever forgave me. But in the kill-or-be-killed English schoolyard it was better that way. Much, much better. My reputation, for the next six years, was settled.

You don't fuck with me.

The fact that I avoided making tackles, was sent off repeatedly and generally farted about, did not prevent me from being picked for teams early on.

"We need him," the glamorous (and popular) captains would think, "not for his superb physique or maverick genius at play. For he has none of these skills. We need him because he is a certifiable beast from Hades who will fuck you up if you don't choose him."

The flaxen-haired stars of the footie team forever hated me. The glory boys who turned the fickle young ladies' heads always ignored me.

On another occasion, the solution to my immediate problem (that of being beaten to near-life by a thug named Mark Hannah, whose age matched his shoe size at thirteen) was less violent, though equally effortless. I gave him the ball.

Reason has always prevailed, for me, over the logic of competition. "Fine," I thought, spitting warm blood and frozen earth. "If he wants this inflated pig's skin then he shall have it."

Treachery. An outrage; a dangerous act. Do not give the ball away!

The groan that went out that afternoon from the paltry crowd of parents and teachers was the lament of ancient taboo being broken. Mr. Walkden, the Welsh maniac Phys. Ed. teacher, exploded in paroxysms of rage.

Yeah. Paroxysms.

Even the stoned liberal arts teachers, dragged out in a forced show of knock-kneed solidarity with the poor sods (gladiators of their day), turned puce and collectively shrieked.

On the other hand, that snowy day, anticipating some bizarre tactical motive on my part, the benighted Neanderthals rushed off up the field in pursuit of Mark Hannah and the ball.

I can't recall if my side won or lost the game, but that moment, as I lay on the frozen earth, was pivotal in revealing the power of dissent.

Beecroft directing Vikes to victory

by Mark Samcoe

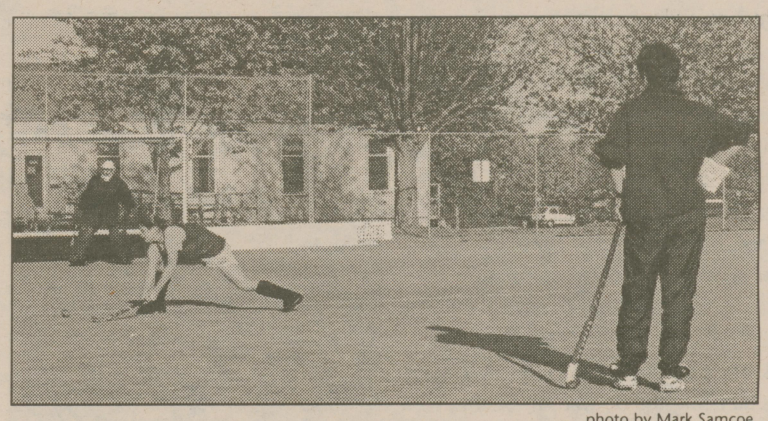

photo by Mark Samcoe

Quiet on the set! Coach Beecroft oversees dress rehearsal action on the UVic field hockey turf.

The Vikes women's field hockey team takes a perfect record and philosophy into this weekend's Canada West tournament on UVic turf.

The tournament is the second of three in CanWest play. Up for grabs are two spots at the national championships held in Halifax at the end of October.

Beginning Friday, the Vikes play the Universities of Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia and Calgary; a total of four games in three days.

"It used to be four games in two days, but it's still insane," says coach Lynne Beecroft. Instead of home and away series, typical of other varsity sports, three tournaments comprise the field hockey season.

Two weeks ago, in the season's first tournament, the Vikes went undefeated in Edmonton.

One of their wins came against UBC, a team they hadn't beaten in two years. Goalkeeper Gillian Batey, who allowed only one goal all weekend, was named CanWest player of the week.

"We have a very young team," says Beecroft. "On paper we probably shouldn't be where we are, but you don't play on paper."

Every year, intuitively, Beecroft comes up with a theme or focal point for the team, meant to compliment their athletic skill and avoid what Beecroft refers to as "paralysis from analysis."

Borrowing from Shakespeare, this year's theme is "All the World's a Stage."

"The young ladies are the actors. I'm the director," Beecroft says. "A stage production is only as good as its actors."

She admits it might get a little corny by the end of the year, but so far it's working wonders.

"We're not just fulfilling the technical and the tactical," says Beecroft. "We're getting everyone connected on a spiritual level."

Team meetings involve skits and poems, gifts and gestures to reinforce positive attitudes. Everything from tattoos, wristbands that read "desire" and "excellence," and pinky fingers painted with nail polish contribute to their emphasis on the positive and their rejection of the negative.

Last year the Vikes finished second in Canada West and third Nationally.

"We were stronger last year on paper but we didn't really bond collectively," says Beecroft. "This year we've bonded well. My athletes are excellent.

"They know they're not just doing it for themselves but for the whole team. We're friends on and off the field."

If the Vikes can take that strength and build on last weekend's performance, they could be set to take the main stage at Nationals.

"Magical things can happen," Beecroft says. "I'm just hoping we can repeat this weekend, in Act II."

Sports of yesterday and tomorrow

New Skin for the Old Ceremony
Home
Women's Field Hockey
Canada West #2
Oct. 4,5,6 @ UVic field hockey pitch
Men's Rugby
Oct. 5 vs. Meraloma @ Wallace Field

Away
Women's Rugby
Oct. 5 vs. Capilanos @ Vancouver
Men's and Women's Soccer
Oct. 5 vs. Trinity Western
Oct. 6 vs. UBC

Beautiful ~~Losers~~ Winners
Men's Soccer
Sept. 28 UVic 0 UofA 0
Sept. 29 UVic 3 UofS 1

Women's Soccer
Sept. 28 UVic 2 UofA 2
Sept. 29 UVic 2 UofS 0

Men's Rugby
Sept. 28 UVic 24 UBC 20

Women's Rugby
Sept. 28 UVic 12 Burnaby 25

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Your day just got a whole lot better.

If at first you don't succeed, tri, tri again

by Ruth Knoop

Feel like going for run? How about a swim? What about a spin or two on a bike? Better yet, why not combine all three?

The UVic Triathlon Club, which dates back to the mid-1980s, is ready for another season of swimming, biking, and running.

"We are a club, not a team," says assistant coach Travis Chater. "We are as hardcore as you want to be, but we also accommodate to everyone."

The Triathlon Club is entirely voluntary. According to Chater, fun is central to its purpose. The ability of the athletes participating ranges from elite and novice, to those who have never competed in a triathlon.

Such is the case for new member Marc Wilson.

"I have never done a triathlon before, and I want to be able to do one by the end of the year," Wilson says. "I'd also like to get a marathon done in two to two-and-a-half hours."

His thoughts on the club are positive.

photo by Mark Samcoe

The highsteppin' Suzanne Wikend cools down with some technicals at Centennial Stadium.

"It's been good," Wilson adds. "The people here are great."

Veteran member, and club president, Kevin Stenner, shares the same enthusiasm.

"I used to be on the rowing team," says Stenner.

"I wanted to see if there was something else I would be better at and enjoy, and the triathlon is it."

As President, Stenner's goal is to provide a stress-free environment for the members so they might do well at national and international levels.

Just because it's triathlon, it doesn't mean that you have to participate in all three sports.

Throughout the year, club members also compete in various road races, marathons, and swim meets. This year, three of the members will compete in the Age Group Worlds. Suzanne Wikend, one of the three, has already made a name for herself. A former national swim team member, Wikend has also finished in the top 15 elite at the Victoria International event.

To perform well at competitions like the annual UBC Triathlon, held every March, these athletes dedicate long hours to practice and training.

They swim for two hours three times a week, hit the track for two-and-a-half hours twice a week, and have weekly spin sessions every Wednesday morning. They also meet every Saturday morning for what they call "the classroom session", where they discuss new training concepts and ways to improve the club.

Although the club focuses a lot of attention on competition, their main purpose, according to Chater, is "for everyone to have a good time, but at the same time, learn a bit. There are people who join the club who can barely swim a lap [of the pool] and by the end of the year they compete in and finish races."

The Triathlon Club is not exclusive to UVic students. They designate up to five per cent of the approximate 100-person membership to non-students. New members are always welcome.

"We are always happy to have more people," says Stenner. "Anyone can come and join."

Interested in joining the UVic Triathlon Club? Check out www.uvictri.org

NHL hockey gets two minutes for hooking

The Martlet's Patrick White is dropping the gloves on the upcoming NHL season. Look into his crystal ball, if you dare.

by Patrick White

It's a well-known, though unconfirmed fact that Canadians drink more beer and have more sex during the winter. However, this doesn't apply to fans of the Vancouver Canucks. Their pissing and moaning is of a different nature. It's derived from the stage fright and performance anxiety their hockey team suffers.

But this year, the Canucks show promise. They're a fast, exciting team, so long as Todd Bertuzzi keeps that stick out his ass and the Martian twins – sorry, the Sedin twins – warm the bench.

The puck drops on the National Hockey League on Oct. 9, and as with every season in the Gary Bettman era, there are a few changes, meant to improve a game that's become only slightly more exciting than CPAC's eighth hour of live coverage on the royal commission.

League honchos have pledged to reduce the clutching and grabbing of skilled players by goons and instigators. This is meant to return the game to the players who do more with a wristshot than a cheapshot. I predict officials will enforce this new initiative until they realize that something like half the league is made up of talentless steroid-abusers who can't skate.

The second major change will see a nylon net strung above the glass to prevent pucks from hitting fans. I can't see this lasting. One of the highlights of the live game is seeing a horde of drunks descend upon, and fight for a puck in the upper deck steps. I can also see Minnesota fans finding more entertainment value in hanging themselves from this fishnet than watching an entire Wild game.

Last week, on the 30th anniversary of the '72 Summit series, Paul Henderson and the rest of the geezers, who hacked, brawled and fingered their way into the hearts and minds of Canadians, appeared in Toronto. Thousands of fans showed up to get autographs and drool over the grey, pot-bellied legends.

I intend to leave my own signature on the game with some predictions for the upcoming season. I believe my work as a program vendor at GM Place for two years gives me ample authority on the following imminent additions to the Canadian pastiche. Here we go:

1) A drunk, leather-clad, 40-year-old wife of a Hells Angel will smack a young, impressionable program vendor on the tush. The husband will glare and the poor boy will spend a week scared shitless.

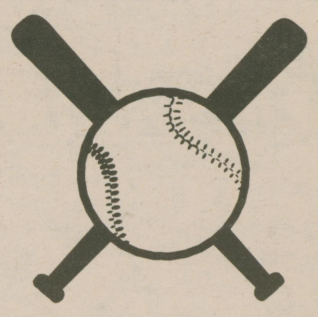
2) Someone will be escorted out of GM Place after mistaking the All-Star Game ballot box for a latrine.

3) 18,000 people will scratch and bite each other to gain better position underneath an inflated killer whale releasing t-shirts from its genitals. The whale will become tangled in the netting.

4) 742 cows will be slaughtered to supply the leather pants for the silicon-implanted, cocaine-snorting set in the Air Canada club seats. At least a dozen of those among the silicon-implanted, cocaine-snorting set will have sex with St. Louis Blues' forward Keith Tkachuk this season.

5) Six security guards and four RCMP officers will be needed to extricate one scrappy, intoxicated father from the stands of the Skyreach Centre. The father's name: Walter Gretzky.

For the next nine months I'll be spending my nights attuned to televised sports highlights, nursing bottles of screech. When it's all over, next June, I'll be kicking and screaming. For more.



Fall Classic Preview

Play ball!

by Mark Samcoe

Oakland vs. Minnesota

Woohoo! Tailgate party! Tiki torches. Foam dome. Spam kebobs. My eczema cleared up this morning. I got tickets on the firstbase line. Donna agreed to marry me.

All week she's been having dreams about flying in a helicopter with Randy Velarde in various states of undress. Look, I'm no turncoat (*go A's!*) but I'm gonna ride him all night.

Oakland over Minnesota

New York vs. Anaheim

Dear David Wells,

Can I call you Boomer? Boomer, I've predicted every pitch you've thrown at home this season. I can do it with my eyes closed. Honest.

I know when you're going to bring the heat. I know when you're going to check the runner at first, how your belly seems to anticipate the turn, swiveling a half-second before the rest of your body.

My daughter's ponytail does the same thing when she spins to glare at Rocky, a boy who shoots elastics at her in math class, the math class I teach. It's a crush. I see everything from the blackboards, and I'm not having any of it. The boy's parents own a pet store. I can't have my daughter dating him, He'll get cat hair on her cashmere.

Boomer, you're going to try to go inside on Jim Edmonds in the fifth. Don't.

New York over Anaheim.

Atlanta vs. San Francisco

A conversation between the occupants of shower stalls four and five.

JOHN SMOLTZ: Greg, I miss Rocker.

GREG MADDUX: Yeah, me too. (*pause*) Pass the loofah?

SMOLTZ: You bet.

Atlanta over San Francisco

Arizona vs. St. Louis

During the postseason, with every purchase of a Big Daddy pretzel from the kiosk at Busch Stadium, you get a special napkin on which is printed little known facts about Cardinals players and staff.

The best napkin has facts about former relief pitcher Dennis Eckersley. When Dennis was nine, on a dare, he swallowed a day-old apple fritter, whole, and tore a small hole in his esophagus. He has never cried. He brings the house down with his karaoke version of Betty Boo's "Doin' the Do."

By the way, order the Bavarian Cream pretzel when Rene is working and he'll double up on the cream, free of charge.

Arizona over St. Louis

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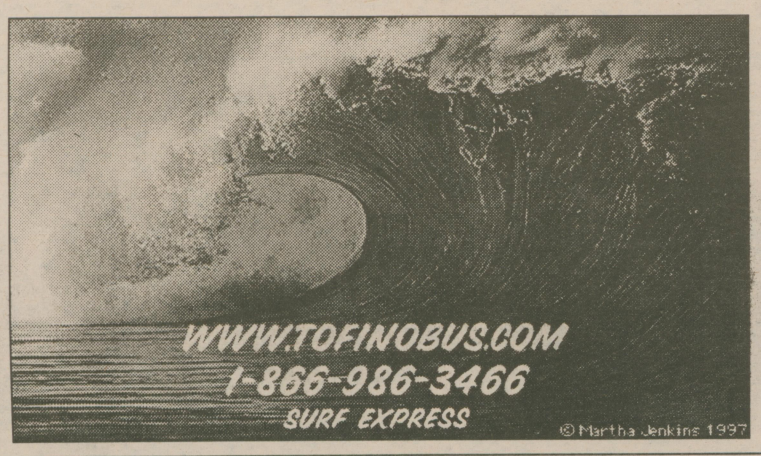

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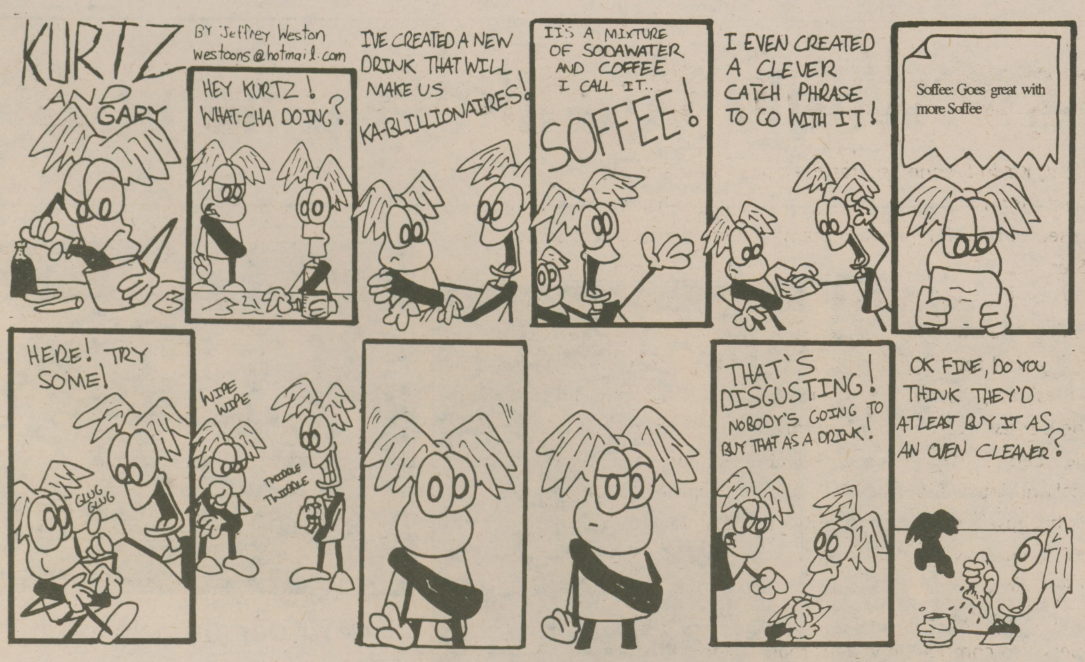
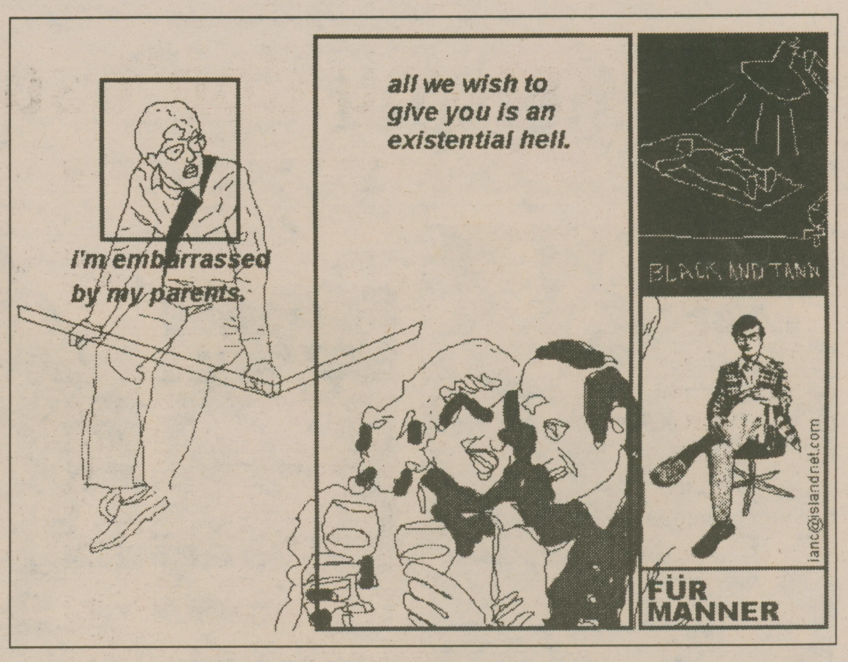

KURTZ AND GARY
BY Jeffrey Weston
westoons@hotmail.com
HEY KURTZ! WHAT-CHA DOING?
I'VE CREATED A NEW DRINK THAT WILL MAKE US KA-BILLIONAIRES!
IT'S A MIXTURE OF SODAWATER AND COFFEE I CALL IT.. SOFFEE!
I EVEN CREATED A CLEVER CATCH PHRASE TO GO WITH IT!
Soffee: Goes great with more Soffee
HERE! TRY SOME!
GLUG GLUG
WIPE WIPE
PHOOAR THUBBLE
THAT'S DISGUSTING! NOBODY'S GOING TO BUY THAT AS A DRINK!
OK FINE, DO YOU THINK THEY'D ATLEAST BUY IT AS AN OVEN CLEANER?



"Do you take debit card?"

AUDITTIES
LISTENING TO AN UNBELIEVABLY CHEESY SONG ON A WALKMAN IN PUBLIC CREATES A FEELING THAT MUST BE SIMILAR TO THE FEELING MEN GET WHO WEAR WOMEN'S PANTIES UNDER THEIR BUSINESS SUITS
if they only knew...
dream weaver...
I ♡ REDNECKS
AUD-

SAM & FUZZY
©2002 BY SAM LOGAN
SAM, THIS IS ARTHUR, THE HEAD ARTISTE OF THE FUZZY-BRAND MARKETING STRATEGY.
RIGHT. AND WHAT EXACTLY DOES A PRODUCTLESS BRAND MARKET?
SIR, I DO NOT DIRTY MYSELF MARKETING "PRODUCTS."
FUZZY™ IS NOT SOME MERE SHOE OR DISHWASHER. NO...
...FUZZY™ IS A LIFESTYLE! A WAY OF THINKING! A COMPLETE NECESSITY FOR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS ON EARTH!
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Billboards

on campus

Presenting Oktoberfest 2002 Friday, Oktober 4 at Velox, 3957 Gordon Head Road. Doors 8 p.m. Band starts at 9 p.m. Tickets on sale in SUB Thurs., Fri. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Still only $5/$7 at the door. Traditional German food and dancing. Door prizes, live band. Come for the b**r; stay for the Lederhosen. Hosted by the UVic German Klub.

Attention Cyclists! The UVic Bicycle Users Committee and the Greater Victoria Bike to Work Society are offering a free day-long course on commuter cycling traffic skills. The course runs on Sept. 22, 29 and Oct. 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. To register, visit web.uvic.ca/uvbikes, or call 920-5775.

An Alternative Future for B.C. NDP MLA Jenny Kwan discusses her thoughts on the future of our province. Speech will be followed by a social. Food and refreshments available. Everyone welcome. Admission by donation. Wed. Oct. 9 at 7p.m. in the Michèle Pujol Room. For more information call Daniel at 519-4740.

Catholic Students' Association Mount Douglas Hike Montée. Sat. Oct. 12, 1- 4 p.m. Meet new friends and get a great view of Victoria. We'll rendezvous at 1 p.m. at Holy Cross parish, 4049 Gordon Head Road, then carpool to Mount Doug. Bring sturdy shoes and your water bottle.

Catholic Students' Association International Potluck, Sunday Oct. 20 after the 4 p.m. Mass at Holy Cross Parish, 4049 Gordon Head Road. Bring a dish that expresses your cultural heritage. All welcome.

***Re-Play*: A free evening festival of the fine arts** featuring music, films, readings and the visual arts exhibition "Heatwaves," curated by Tyrone Castelanelli. Refreshments & snacks will be available. Events begin at 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 3 in the Visual Arts Building.

Malahat Review Literary magazine information day. Thurs. Oct. 3, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Fine Arts Bldg foyer. Discover the best in contemporary fiction and poetry in Canadian literary magazines. Special student subscriptions available. Refreshments. For more info call 721-8524.

Calling all artists. The History in Art Student Society is holding a silent art auction Oct. 23 and 24. If you would like to make some money for your art, please contact historyinart@hotmail.com. Submissions no later than Oct. 21.

off campus

The M.E. Victoria Association for Chronic Fatigue is holding their regular support meeting on the 3rd Tues. of every month from 1-3 p.m. in the Clinic Room, Capital Health Region Offices, 2nd floor-3995 Quadra St. /McKenzie Saanich Centre. Members and newcomers are urged to come and help establish a strong working support group to maintain our organization as an effective support unit for us all. Come and bring your friends. For more info, contact us at 384-4783 or me_victoria@shaw.ca

Women's Kickboxing Increase your power with Blackbelt Kickboxing. Introductory classes plus professional assessment. Gordon Head/Cedar Hill. Limited space call 472-3101.

Friday Night at the Tea House. (1910 Store Street) Poems. People. Music. Readers include Kate Steele, Mercedes Bátiz-Benét, Emily Nilsen, Nick Thran, Mark Samcoe and James Thomas. Friday, Oct. 4. $3. 7:30 p.m.

for sale

1986 Toyota Camry. Runs well. Sound body. Safe, reliable and economical transportation. $2400 O.B.O. call 477-8315.

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announcements

Attention Writers and Artists! The English Students' Course Union is again accepting submissions of poetry/prose/artwork for our literary arts journal, "Chaos." Send works to escu@uvic.ca or drop off a hard copy in our box in the English Dept., 3rd floor. Clearihue.

wanted

Seeking drummer with interest in recording and touring for dedicated pop/rock/new wave band with original songs. Call 385-6359 or brookeg@uvic.ca

Apple iBook. Call Stewart at 884-7691.

hey you

To the girl whose nose I accidentally bloodied in the Smuggler's Sublivion mosh pit: I am *so* sorry.

Do you remember this? Me, in a green shirt and loving every minute of it. You, wearing a coat coloured camel, and, well, I don't know. It was dark. It was a week or two ago. I was drunk. You were hot. Marry me. Please.

Hey, I'm a wandering anarchist/socialist/individualist/realist/idealist too! Imagine that.

You want me bad. I'm so hot I make your teeth sweat. Nate.

on the spot

Parts and labour by Craig Battle and Mark Samcoe

Would you like a tune up?

Hold still a second, will you? This won't hurt a bit.

Nick Anderson
2nd year, pre-commerce

N: No.
M: You don't trust us?
C: You don't think we're trustworthy? We're trustworthy.
N: You don't look trustworthy.
M: What's wrong with us? Is it his socks? His shoes? He can take those off.

Jude Coates
UVSS Director-at-Large

C: (*pointing to utility vehicle*) It's not ours. Is it yours?
J: Yeah. It's mine.
C: Okay. How do we get under the hood?
J: Jump up and down on the front.
C: Got it.
M: (*desperately, to Craig*) What do I do?
C: (*to Mark*) Grab a tool or something. (*to Jude*) So. Would you mind if we climbed underneath?

Sophie Preston
Masters French

S: What are your qualifications?
M: [*babbling about journeymen and mechanic schools*] We don't have any.
S: Okay, then. No.
C: We're willing to learn.
M: We're keen.
S: Sure, but I have to drive after.
C: So, say, if we screwed it up then you'd be pissed off at us.
S: Yes.
M: But we'd screw it up for free.

Nick Anderson
Again

N: How about this. You can tell me why my brakes are making a rhythmic sound when I slow down.
C: Sure. Let us under the hood.
N: Also, that right there. When you say, "Let me under the hood" to check my brakes, it makes me lose faith in your ability to check brakes.
M: (*struggling with the hood*) That's the way I was taught.
N: Also, the fact that you can't get my hood up. That's another thing.
M: (*wiping hands*) Yeah. Looks good.

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sub b011 (yay!)

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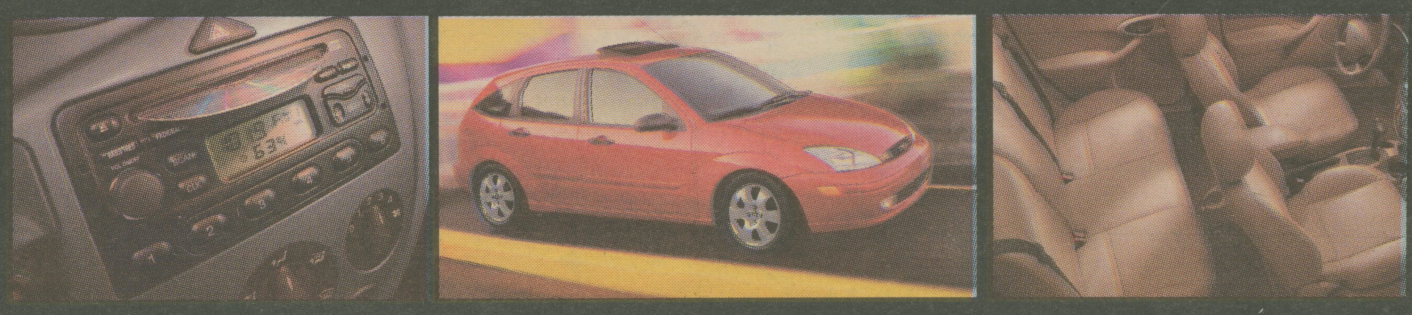


COMMUNITIES
SOLIDARITY
COALITION

British Columbia Clarion

Official organ of the mobilization for justice in B.C.

Volume 3, Issue 1
Circulation 25,000
October 2002
Cost $1

Victoria Strikes Back!

All out Oct. 7th

Clarion Staff Reporter

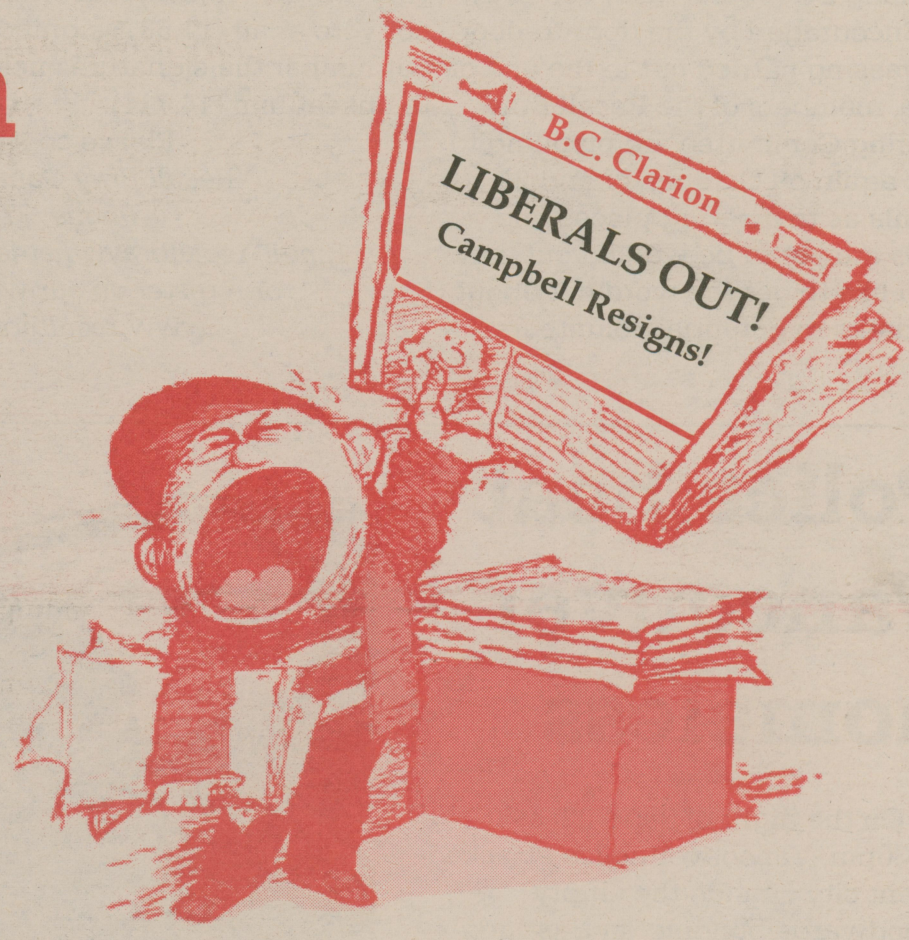
The big push is on!

In Round Two, we are going to remind our tyrant Premier and his 77 toadies that their past actions and future plans are anathema to all who seek a just and caring government in our province.

Community Solidarity Coalitions all across the province will be sending the same message with similar demonstrations on Oct. 7, the day the BC Liberals return to the legislature. We now have a timeline for action, developed at a meeting of the Island solidarity coalitions held in Nanaimo last month. It shows the step-by-step plan to eject Campbell and his unsavoury government:

Now get out a pen and mark your calendar and day timer: "Oct 7th: Day of Defiance Rally and March. Meet at 10 am, Centennial Square. Bring a bag lunch and thermos in your pack. Wear strong walking shoes and be prepared to be in the open air for about three hours." After the rally, we are meeting for a B.B.Q. and social at the DeVinci Centre, 195 Bay Street (in VicWest, across the Bay Street bridge from downtown.)

Bring along your family, friends, co-workers and neighbours. We're in this together. And remember: "Step by step, the longest march can be won."



Time Line of Governmental Collapse

Oct. 7: Day of Defiance
Beginning of Round Two

Oct. 7 - Nov. 16: Door-knocking
- Anti-Liberal municipal campaigns
- Recall ad/sign campaigns, workshops

Nov. 16: Municipal Elections
- Unseating of local BC Liberals

Nov. 2002 - Jan 2003: Signatures
- Recall Campaigns begin

Mid-2003: Grassroots Unity
- Opposition Unites
- Liberal MLAs lose seats

Fall 2003: BC-wide General Strike
- Government Resigns *in disgrace.*

DEFIANCE - 1. Renunciation of faith, allegiance, or amity; declaration of hostilities 2. A challenge; a summons to a combat or contest. 3. The act of setting at nought 4. Declaration of aversion or contempt 5. Distrust
Source: Oxford English Dictionary, Oxford University Press: 1933

Solidarity with *Times Colonist* workers

The *Clarion* extends unequivocal Solidarity greetings to the workers now on strike at Victoria's *Times Colonist* newspaper. The Joint Council of Victoria Newspaper Unions should be applauded and materially supported for resisting contracting out and attacks on hard-fought trade union victories. Their adversary is no small outfit: CanWest Global owns the *National Post*, *Vancouver Sun*, *Vancouver Province*, *Nanaimo Daily News*, *Prince George Citizen*, BCTV, and CH TV, plus a number of dailies in rural BC. CanWest owner I.H. Asper is a former leader of the Manitoba Liberal party, and his son David sits on the board of the profit-mad Fraser Institute.

Victorians should *boycott* all these ventures: refuse to buy any CanWest papers and turn off CanWest TV stations. Go a step further: walk the *TC* picket line for an hour or two; drop off snacks, money or a letter of support; and remember – honk loud, long and proud every time you pass the line.

"An injury to one is an injury to all."

'Recall Bray'

D-Day is fast approaching

Decision Day is less than two months away for the Recall Bray Campaign: November 18th is the first day on which a Recall Petition can be officially launched.

Let's send the Campbell Liberal government a strong message about how we feel about their attack on social programs, the environment and labour by recalling BC Liberal MLA Jeff Bray.

Encouraged by the door-to-door canvassing carried out in the end of June, members of the Recall Bray Steering Committee are planning to do it again on October 17 and 24. Details as to meeting places and times are yet to be worked out, but we'd like to get the word out about the dates to potential volunteers.

Also, we are seeking to broaden the community base of the Recall Bray Steering Committee by including representatives of more community groups and would like to hear from interested groups and volunteers.

If it can work at all, Recall *can* work in Victoria-Beacon Hill where the number of people who did not vote Liberal (15,806) and who did not vote at all (11,537) significantly outnumber the signatures needed to unseat him (14,711).

Please *contact the Recall Bray Campaign:*
Phone. 370-5180
Email. recallbray@net4ed.com
or register on our website:
www.recallbray.com

Police beat Vancouver homeless

On the night of Sept. 22, at 11:30pm, Vancouver police attacked a tent city outside the empty Woodwards building on Hastings Street. Less than 48 hours earlier, over 50 homeless people had been forced from their squat in the building, which had been slated for low-income housing prior to the BC Liberals' election to office.

Dozens of people were arrested and the belongings of sixty people thrown into four waiting garbage trucks. The police said they carried out the raid because people were committing a bylaw infraction by obstructing the sidewalk.

Police cordoned off Abbott between Hastings and Cordova, then without allowing people to gather their belongings and leave, the police started to arrest people at the site. Many were thrown to the ground and witnesses saw police beating people during the arrests.

"I witnessed a homeless woman being grabbed by the scruff of the neck and thrown down by three police officers after she asked them where their heart was. They are picking on the homeless and poor," said Jack, one of the original squatters from the Woodwards building.

Police went so far as to arrest John Richardson, lawyer for the squatters, when he asked to speak to an officer who could provide more information on the charges under which people were being arrested.

A week before the raid, on Sept. 15, a group of Vancouver homeless people squatted the Woodwards building to demand the province make good on its promise for social housing in that building.

The Vancouver Anti-Poverty Committee has demanded the unconditional release of all 58 people arrested at the Woodwards building on Sept. 21 and 22.

Citizens launch class action suit to save BC Hydro

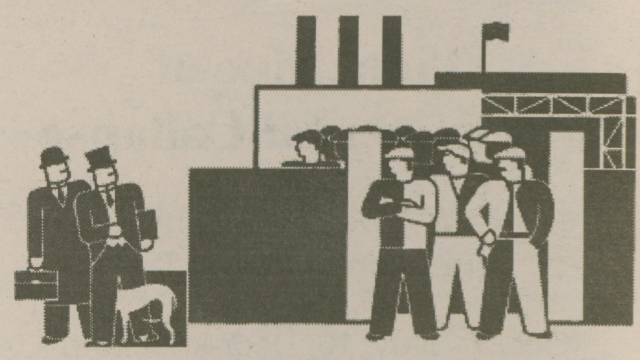
In 1999 good old West Kootenay Power was sold off to a transnational power bandit called Utilicorp. Since then there have been two 5% rate hikes. I can hear CEO's and shareholders of Accenture drooling over the nice fact that Public Enemy #1 (a.k.a. Gordo) is planning to serve the BC Hydro goose up on a silver platter. Not to mention the connections between Accenture and Arthur Anderson Consulting, the auditor of Enron Corp.

But pssst... ssshh... guess what? We ain't gonna let 'em do it, are we? Happily the folks on guard for Canada at BC Citizens for Public Power have launched a class action suit in BC Supreme Court, requiring the government to hold a full public inquiry before proceeding. So, since this will take three years, and by that time the Liberals will be history, we may have staved off disaster. They've aiming for 100,000 plaintiffs in the law suit.

One thing is for sure: our own devils of electrical engineering at Hydro, and the hyenas at Accenture, are busy writing up the contracts that they think are going to sell Hydro down the river.

So folks, contact BC Citizens for Public Power to add *your name* to the class action suit. Send a cheque if you can. Phone (604) 790-3352; write #53-1895 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC, V5N 4A6; or visit the group online: www.citizensforpublicpower.ca.

Building up the General Strike



Like a mighty thunderbolt, the general strike is gestating in the womb of the B.C. Fed.

The unionists are nerving themselves, the shop stewards are feeling things out, locals are taking positions, and committees are sitting.

Remember folks out there, a general strike is like climbing a mountain. It will be long. It will be excruciatingly inconvenient for many of us.

The demands to the government must be just so – perfectly tailored, like a Gucci suit, or a Dior gown.

Also, *every* concerned citizen will have to help. The brothers and sisters on the picket lines will have to be fed and paid strike pay. Nobody, but nobody, will cross the picket line, and in this one there won't be any *scabs*.

If all of us in B.C. are forced to hit the bricks, Campbell and his toadies are *history*.

Want more info? Check out:
www.generalstrikenews.ca

"How We've Been HIT"

Sick Society

I've heard it said that a good measurement of a society's health is how we treat our poor and old people. I would say that we have a sick society, as Mr. Campbell's actions demonstrate. The Ministry of Human Resources has put out a pamphlet "B.C. Employment and Assistance 'Time Limits.'" It makes for quite frightening reading. I will read to you first one piece of legislation: "No eligibility for employable singles after two years." Guess who determines who's employable? They refer to the availability of training programs. I have experienced them and they've not very professionally run. They're a fake in other words. We all have to stand up and tell Mr. Campbell and company that their idea of a society is not ours.

David Nash,
Victoria.

Payback Time:

An Angry Old Timer Speaks Out

I came to this fine province in 1956. The C.N.R. shipped me, my bicycle, my skis and 14 large packing cases from Halifax to Nanaimo for $27 – passenger and effects!

Kind supervisors in a shift-work operation allowed me to go to U.B.C. by day and work the 3-11 shift. Earl Birney was my English prof. University and B.C. Employees Association bursaries paid my tuition every year for four years. I left U.B.C. with a $300 student loan debt, a B.A. and a teachers certificate.

Various government jobs enabled me to retire at 64 on a modest pension. Wacky Bennett paid me $500 when I bought my first house. My wife and I now own the house we live in and have moderate tastes. We were all set until the present harsh government got into office and began victimizing old-age pensioners in residential care, single mothers, people with disabilities, and children – not to mention abusing the environment.

So having "laid down my sword and shield" I promptly took them up again and here I am scribbling away for *Clarion* and fighting Public Enemy #1 and his 77 toadies in any way I can.

Any old timers wishing to join the struggle can phone Freda of the Victoria Seniors Association at 642-5120. She needs 'Raging Grannies' to swell the ranks and sing. For non-musical activity, call Clara at 360-1068.

A Survey of Destruction

Let's remind ourselves of what Campbell's government has done and is doing:

Some time ago now, I awoke from my normal political apathy and realized B.C. was in real danger of drifting into the 'third world' under the present government. I began to keep a pile of clippings as the unpardonable things happened, or did not happen. Here is a partial list. **Readers are asked to write and let us know of all the ones we've missed.** This government:

- Gave a significant tax cut to the rich and comfortably off
- Closed dozens of hospitals and schools, threatening the safety and wellbeing of citizens, particularly in rural areas
- Slashed welfare and disability benefits and made it harder to get them
- Cut funding to school boards
- Reduced autonomy of regional health boards
- Closed two residential drug treatment centres to publicly funded patients (one has since closed down completely)
- Increased class sizes in the public school system and reduced funding for teachers' aides for special needs students
- Closed seniors homes and disregarded any compassionate transition for the residents
- Reduced access to the most effective cancer drugs because they cost too much
- Cut mammography screening
- Increased MSP premiums by 50% while 'delisting' services, such as eye exams
- Announced replacement of Gorge Road Rehabilitation Centre with a smaller facility, despite existing waitlists
- Cut the minimum wage by 25%
- Tore up the legally binding contracts of public-sector workers
- Eliminated 11,000 public-sector jobs, increasing unemployment
- Shut down the BC Human Rights Commission
- Lifted the moratorium on the Grizzly bear hunt

- Closed 24 courthouses across BC, making it harder and more expensive to go to civil or criminal trial
- Closed 60 legal aid offices in rural areas and on First Nations reservations, hindering access to free legal advice
- Eliminated funding for women's centres
- Canceled BC's universal Child Care Program and cut funding to the Ministry of Children and Family Development by 23%
- Increased medication dispensing fees for seniors from $7 to $25 for each prescription
- Fired 14 environmental researchers
- Abolished photo radar, an effective method of controlling dangerous driving
- Taken steps to privatize BC Hydro, ICBC and the Liquor Distribution Branch
- Closed several BC Forest Service bases, and increased the workload of forest-fire fighters
- Deregulated post-secondary tuition fees, leading to a 30%-60% increase in user fees at BC colleges and universities
- Eliminated funding for youth employment programs
- Closed dozens of provincial parks & campgrounds
- Held a racist 'referendum' on Indigenous rights that has been condemned by legitimate pollsters and researchers.

In the months ahead, the Clarion *will document the extent of the Liberal assault in BC. Readers and groups are requested to forward case studies and information immediately: solidarity@shaw.ca / BC Clarion, #201-415 Gorge Rd. E, Victoria, BC, V8T 2W1 / www.victoriasolidarity.org*

Democracy ATTACK

By John Dylan
Special *Clarion* feature

Laughter is Gordon Campbell's response to angry criticism. He has been disdainful of public protest despite having surprised the province with an extremist agenda. Campbell did not campaign on severe cuts that hurt the most vulnerable, nor did he mention gutting programs such as the Human Rights Commission. Campbell aims to radically restructure BC society without a mandate from the people. "Too far, too fast" has been a common observation. Criticism of Campbell's extremist agenda, however, has served to mute equally deserving criticism of his serious assault on our democratic institutions. We now know that Campbell's draconian plans were in place long before the last election, but were kept secret. His contempt for the 'people' raises the question of whether elections serve any useful purpose. Do we merely vote for a despot who can do whatever he or she wants for five years?

Some people argue that we should not be surprised by Campbell's lies because all politicians lie. This is true to some extent, however electoral lies usually take the form of promising something then not delivering. "A chicken in every pot" parodies the electoral process. Campbell's lies, however, are quite different. Not only is there no chicken, he wants the pots back. He is doing this by the wholesale dismantling of government programs and services, and the elimination of universal access to human and legal rights. The extent of this deceit is simply unprecedented.

Campbell's lies are also extraordinary because his policies are so inappropriate to the Liberal party label. Normally when we vote for politicians we don't expect to know every detail about how they will govern. However, we do expect to have some general idea about what they will do based on their political ideology. Traditionally, 'liberals' are described as fiscally conservative and socially progressive, somewhere in the middle of the political spectrum. Campbell's agenda, however, is very far to the right. Federally he would not be considered a Liberal or even a Conservative. Instead, he would fit somewhere in the Reform/ Alliance line-up. This explains why he has been giving speeches at Alliance dinners. Campbell's blatant dishonesty forces us to re-examine our ideas about democracy. Have changes occurred that enable politicians to treat the public with contempt?

In order to understand our present circumstances we must examine our parliamentary system, its strengths and weaknesses. To do so it helps to compare the Canadian system to that in the United States. In the United States the Constitution is supreme. The protector of the Constitution is the Supreme Court; therefore, it is the senior branch of government. The Supreme Court in the USA can make law, such as the decision that made abortion legal. In Canada the Courts are very reluctant to make law even though Trudeau did install a limited Constitution and Charter of Rights. The tradition in Canada is that Parliament is supreme. The other two branches of government in the USA are the 'Executive Branch', known as the 'Presidency', and the 'Legislative Branch', also referred to as 'Congress'. Congress enacts laws and controls the 'purse strings' while the President submits budgets and runs the day-to-day operations of the various government departments. This division of powers was designed so that checks and balances would prevent abuses of power. In Canada both the legislative and the executive functions are controlled by the ruling party that has the most seats in the House of Commons. For this reason, and because Parliament is supreme, the leader of the ruling party in Canada governs with much more power than a President.

The Leader of the ruling party becomes the Prime Minister and he appoints individuals, usually from the House of Commons, to head the various Ministries. Collectively these Ministers constitute the Cabinet and they both propose laws and administer them within their departments. This Cabinet system is the most practical limitation on the power of the leader. The Prime Minister's control of Cabinet varies because Ministers are elected members and have a constituency within the ruling party. They have influence and wield some power. For example, they may represent regional interests, which the leader ignores at his peril. The leader's control of Cabinet depends on party politics, personal loyalties, various factional interests, and his public popularity. The Prime Minister often needs to act as a broker between Cabinet interests in order to govern effectively. However, as he both hires and fires members of Cabinet, his position is usually strong. This is an important distinction from the American system where 'deal making' often takes place in the Congress where both major parties are usually involved.

Limitations on the Legislative power of the Canadian federal government can come from the Senate; however, it can only act to slow down legislation. In comparing our system to that in the United States it should be obvious that the potential for abuse of power is much greater in Canada. In a parliamentary system 'Cabinet' and 'party politics' limit the leader's power, but this limitation is a lot less than having to deal with two other powerful branches of government.

The power of provincial Premiers is also more than one might expect. Canada's political system is unique in the world because it is both a parliamentary system and a federation. Canada's federal system gives distinct and important powers to provincial parliaments including control of natural resources. However, at the provincial level there are no senates that can act to slow down legislation. Furthermore, the Provinces can choose to opt out of parts of the Federal constitution. The potential for abuse of power at the provincial level, therefore, is also quite high.

The advantage of a Parliamentary system is that it can act quickly in time of crisis. However, there has always been the theoretical concern that Parliament's power could be abused if the leader were

(Continued on page 5)

Under

Campbell with former Ontario premier Mike Harris.

(Continued from page 4)

unconcerned about re-election. Such a leader need not care about public consultation so long as he can maintain the support of his Cabinet and majority in parliament. Normally, factionalism within a ruling party prevents any leader from going this far. There are usually leadership hopefuls waiting in the wings, ready to pounce when there is poor leadership. Therefore, for a leader to flagrantly abuse power he would need an 'iron grip' on his party. This is presently the case in BC.

But how is it possible that Gordon Campbell can persuade so many elected MLA's to follow such a confrontational and socially divisive path? The simple explanation is that the Liberal majority is so large they don't believe they can lose the next election no matter how hard they try. Individual MLA's can expect 'plum' government appointments if they lose their own seat. This argument is persuasive because the opposition is divided between the NDP and the Green Party. Three more years, however, is a long time. There is an old saying that: "A week in politics is a long time".

Political reporting by CanWest Global is just enough to avoid the criticism of being obviously biased, but not enough to hurt Campbell's image.

A more compelling explanation can be found in the individual membership of the Liberal caucus. They were electorally successful because of the public's strong disenchantment with the previous government, not because of their own initiative. These new MLA's are largely 'accidental politicians'. They come without strong political track records and, by all accounts, without much talent. Those Liberal MLA's who did hold seats before the last election are sadly typical: they were quite ineffectual while sitting in Opposition. Furthermore, Liberal MLA's owe their success to their party's centralized advertising program that was well funded by special corporate interests. Their support is not so much at the constituency level but derived from a centralized authority. They are dependant on party management and act as mere employees of the Liberal Party Corporation, not as major stakeholders. They lack political independence, are weak and easily led.

Even Campbell's Cabinet is firmly under his control. When he appointed his Ministers they each had to agree not to criticize any government policy. In effect, there was a gag order. Furthermore, Campbell appointed their Ministerial Assistant. Normally a Minister chooses his own staff. By planting one of his men into each Minister's office the Premier changes the Cabinet system. Independent initiative is stifled. The Ministers are clearly not 'players'; they are watched and can be relied on to do as they are told. The Premier's televised Cabinet meetings are a demonstrable exercise in his obsessive control. Everything is staged; each Minister performs like a trained Monkey. Campbell has changed the cabinet system into something like a presidential system without the protection of checks and balances. Control by the Premier is virtually complete. In business terms this is referred to as 'micro managing'. Reports from the 'public service' confirm that the Premier's micro managing reaches virtually all levels of management with predictably chaotic results.

The Premier is able to threaten our democratic traditions for two reasons. The collapse of the NDP was virtually complete and allowed many amateurs to win office who are political weaklings. Furthermore, it was possible for a party to win whose internal structures are largely undemocratic. In effect, the Liberal party is not political. Internal debate is an illusion and there is no real threat to Campbell's leadership no matter how bad. Gordon Campbell is free to dictate policy without consultation. The Premier and his faceless financial backers make all of the decisions. Because they own the party it is perhaps not surprising they also believe they own the province.

Campbell's contempt for the people and our democratic traditions is the natural expression of his dictatorial style within his party. But how is it possible that he can act like a tyrant and stave off widespread social unrest? After all, politics is appearances. The explanation is that Campbell can count on the Press to keep him high in the polls. Canwest Global controls the television news of both CTV and Global, as well as owning many of the newspapers in BC. They gave at least $30,000 to the BC Liberal Party before the last election. Canwest Global is not reporting the news; they are manufacturing it. The awful truth about program cuts is not being told. Stories about families suffering enormous hardships are not being reported where it counts most, on television. Furthermore, the television press is not pursuing the Liberals for false and illogical statements. Instead, we are fed a steady diet of 'feel good' human-interest stories. Stories about orphaned whales and cute furry animals are standard. Stories about children living on the streets are not. Occasional reports that do show the government in a bad light are fleeting with little or no analysis. No analysis means no thought. Critical comments, such as those by Union leaders, suddenly experience technical difficulties. Political reporting by CanWest Global is just enough to avoid the criticism of being obviously biased, but not enough to hurt Campbell's image.

It is important to note that Gordon Campbell is largely a media creation. When he first successfully ran for Mayor of Vancouver he did not have an extensive track record of community service. His campaign was polished television advertising paid for by local developers. He was shown giving a speech in front of a fake audience; it was all staged. Also, the Premier's brother was a former employee of the Vancouver CTV News Hour.

Michael Campbell provided the so-called business analysis – rhetoric served up nightly for weak minds. The Campbell's are experienced manipulators of television, relying on repetitive and simplistic sound bites. They depend on media support, and propaganda paid for by a small economic elite.

(Continued on page 6)

Campbell speaking to the Vancouver Board of Trade. While protesters are pepper sprayed by police, business always has the Premier's ear.

FOOD SENSE

By John Dylan

Don't kid yourself about the food industry. They are doing to our children what the cigarette companies did. Getting them hooked on additives, a poisonous habit that sticks with them their entire lives. In fact, many of the food companies *are* the tobacco industry: RJR Nabisco or Kraft foods. And don't think that the processed foods they push are inexpensive. Many of these additive-filled products have little nutritional value. They are commonly referred to as 'negative food' because of high levels of starch, sugar and other negatives. This column is dedicated to idea that good food costs less and tastes better; and that it doesn't have to take a lot of work to eat well.

The following is a basic recipe for Italian lentil soup. It is very cost effective: you will need a big pot. A lot of people avoid beans because of problems with gas but if prepared properly your body will soon adapt. Other lentil soups, which I often make, are East Indian and Moroccan. Don't be afraid to add extras to the following recipe, such as black beans, more or other vegetables (e.g. fresh tomatoes, bell peppers, etc.), or some fresh ground nutmeg. If you love basil add some too.

1 pound green lentils
1 large onion
2 sticks celery
1 carrot
4-6 tablespoons Canola Oil
Extra Virgin Olive Oil *
6 cloves garlic
2 bay leaves
1 150-ml. can of tomato paste (more if preferred)
3 tablespoons soy sauce
4 or more tablespoons dried oregano
1 tablespoon dried parsley
1 tablespoon chili sauce
Salt and black pepper to taste
(1 tsp anchovy paste, optional)

Soak lentils for twenty minutes then change the water. Like all beans, this gets rid of flatulence causing compounds that will be reabsorbed by the beans if left any longer. Soak for at least two more hours, or over night. Change water then bring to a boil and discard hot water. Cover beans well with new water; add 1 tsp salt and bay leaves then heavy simmer till soft, usually about one hour. Do not add other ingredients as the presence of sugars inhibits softening of beans. Stir occasionally.

Meanwhile, add canola oil to a separate pan and slowly sauté small-diced vegetables till soft. When lentils have softened to your liking, combine vegetables, beans, crushed garlic, tomato, soy sauce and anchovy paste. Add oregano, salt and pepper to taste. Simmer for at least another hour adding water as needed, stirring occasionally and adjusting seasoning. Ten minutes before serving add some olive oil*. This adds to, and helps carry, flavour. The amount is largely 'personal taste' but I would put in at least 4 tablespoons. When I make this soup I also add 1 nutmeg. This soup tastes better the second day and freezes well. A final note: get a pepper grinder for black peppercorns; it is essential.

Stay tuned for more 'Food Sense' in future issues of the Clarion.

Democracy Under Attack: (Cont.)

(Continued from page 5)

Further evidence of the Premier's reliance on media control can be found in his recent elimination of Ministry communication branches: he has combined them into one centralized organization. Campbell was concerned the right message was not getting out. He now has his Department of Propaganda. We can expect an endless series of television ads, disguised as news reports, telling us what a wonderful job the government is doing

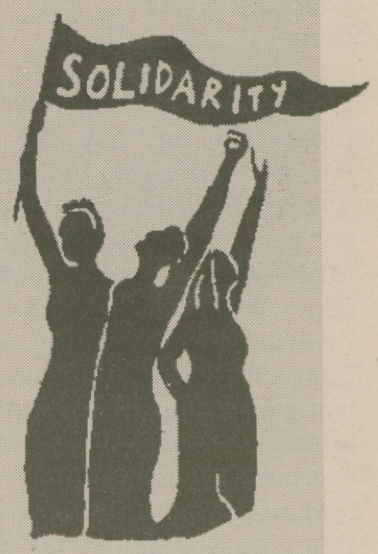
Since the writings of George Orwell it has been feared that control of the press could threaten democratic institutions. Orwell predicted that blatant lies and backward logic might become so commonplace that the public would accept such slogans as "War is Peace". British Columbia is presently undergoing such an experiment. The Liberals have the audacity to claim that spending cuts improve services. The Minister of Education stated that school programs must be better, despite shortfalls, because responsibility has been shifted to the local level. It is revealing that the television media did not mock her comments. The Press is simply not doing its job as required in a democracy.

However, the public can successfully challenge the Media. We are a well-educated people and you can't fool the majority all the time. The effects of government cuts are going to become increasingly harder to hide. Also, many people have been so angered by Campbell's irresponsible and cruel policies they have become politically active for the first time. If this anger is directed at manipulations by the Press, the very act of exposing them will rob them of their influence. Some reporters at CanWest TV deserve to be ridiculed for their cowardliness and lack of professionalism. We should boycott biased TV stations and their advertising sponsors. Perhaps we simply have to relearn the old adage that "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance". As for Gordon Campbell, nature has a way of dealing with those who micro-manage: the end tends to be sudden and lonely for tyrants.

In the end, the decision really depends on whether the people of British Columbia are as easily led by the Media as Liberal backbenchers are by Campbell. The stakes are higher than many realize. The democratic spirit is much like confidence: once lost it is hard to regain.

John Dylan is a former public servant who has now joined the campaign to bring down the Campbell government.

Feeling helpless, isolated, upset? Get connected with your community:



* Please Contact Me! *

Communities Solidarity Coalition & *BC Clarion*

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

I Can help with: **Email:** _____

(events & rallies, fundraising, research, art & posters etc., *BC Clarion*):

_____
_____
_____
_____

Mail to: Communities Solidarity Coalition
#201-415 Gorge Rd E.
Victoria, BC V8T 2W1
tel.(250) 480-0533/ solidarity@shaw.ca

From the Editors:

Bring down this government

We at the *Clarion* have had enough of Gordon Campbell and the BC Liberal 'New Era.' In our opinion, the government's agenda of cutbacks and privatization is old and outdated, a throw-back to the laissez-faire economic policies of the 19th century. The rich reaped the staggering profits of industrialization, while poor people starved, fell ill and often died.

Trade unions had no legal protections and there was no social infrastructure to support those in need. Opposition groups were crushed by the full force of state power. Working people were compelled to organize themselves into mass movements to challenge the profiteers, and bring into birth a new world that would privilege ordinary people and their communities ahead of private wealth.

Such a struggle is needed in British Columbia at present. Our premier has drawn a line between the wealthiest 5 per cent of the population and everyone else. Our social infrastructure, built up over decades of struggle, is being sold off to benefit the few.

We cannot and must not wait until the 2005 general election. It will be too late. We must prove to Gordon Campbell that we will overcome fragmentation and isolation and come together as a community in Solidarity. A new vision of social and ecological justice must rule this Island.

Future generations depend on our present actions.

Clarion Mailbox

British Columbia Clarion
#201-415 Gorge Rd. E.
Victoria, BC
V8T 2W1

Editor's Note: *We believe the concepts of 'journalistic objectivity' and 'non-partisan' reporting are imagined, and serve to conceal ideology and bias. Writing, reporting, and editing require the selection of facts and ideas. While the Clarion will strive to represent a range of viewpoints, we declare our bias to be with the people of BC, and against all forms of greed and exploitation. We hope this explains our pointed style.*

Why 'The Clarion'?

What is a 'Clarion,' you ask? Literally, it is a type of horn, depicted in the logo on our masthead. However "the clarion call" has a rich, deep meaning in progressive circles. It symbolizes a call to action, a call for awakening in response to a grave social ill.

In 1901, the *Nanaimo Clarion* gave voice to the grievances of Vancouver Island coal miners. The *Western Clarion* published from 1904 until 1925, as the newspaper of the Socialist Party of Canada. (It was banned by the federal Government at the end of WWI.)

The original *B.C. Clarion* began publication in August 1932, as the organ of Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) in BC.

Today, in 2002, we revive the name, to issue a "Clarion Call" to the people of BC in their struggle against neo-Liberalism.

The Editors

LETTERS

Liberals destroying education

The BC Liberals are destroying the Public Education system. They have already admitted that they want a two-tiered Health system, and it is apparent they want private schools to be the only option for quality education.

Many class sizes in the public high schools have increased by fifty percent this year because of spending restrictions. Furthermore, equipment such as computers are not being maintained. I know of one class where almost half of the computers don't work and the class size has increased. Instead of one student for each computer there are now almost three students.

The Liberals are stealing from future generations so that they can give a huge tax break to their friends. They are beneath contempt.

A Concerned Parent

A hearty applause

This paper was a long time coming. The corporate government and its media must be exposed and opposed. Keep up the good work!

A Reader

NOTICE BOARD

Junk Mail

Some folks are sensitive about what's put in their mail box. The *Clarion* is a labour of love, written, printed, and delivered by unpaid volunteers. We don't think it's junk mail. If you get yours at work or don't want it delivered please put a 'No Clarion Please' sticker on or near you mail box.

Feed back time

We urgently need your letters and articles. Keep them coming. Email solidarity@shaw.ca, or send submissions to *B.C. Clarion*, #201-415 Gorge Rd. E, Victoria, BC, V8T 2W1. Call 480-0533 with any questions.

Workers Needed

We hope, as we get into high gear, to put a *Clarion* into every home in Victoria. To do this we need a delivery manager, couriers, and paper persons. Drop us a line saying which blocks you can cover, or where you can drop off bundles. Can you be our advertising manager? We need you!

Ads Welcome

Phone Don or Florence, Tuesday through Saturday, 6-7 pm: 477-5507. Prices negotiable. Subject to ethical advertising guidelines.

Machiavelli Department

Sit in a comfortable position. Relax, concentrate on your breathing, let your mind go blank, pose this command to your subconscious mind: "Come up with a course of action that is legal, cheap, and effective that will help to rid us of the Campbell Liberals."

Keep right on breathing for a while and if nothing comes say to your subconscious mind: "Keep working on it" and return to your normal activities.

Any ideas that come within the realm of civil disobedience are welcome at:

Machiavelli Department
#201-415 Gorge Rd. East
Victoria, BC V8T 2W1
Call (250) 480-0533

CALENDAR:
Upcoming events

Oct. 4-6, Salt Spring Island
Escalating Peace Conference
Call Marion, (250) 537-4567

Oct. 7, 10 am, Centennial Sq.
Day of Defiance rally and march

Oct. 7, 4-10 pm, DeVinci Centre, 195 Bay
Social & BBQ—Post-Rally Party

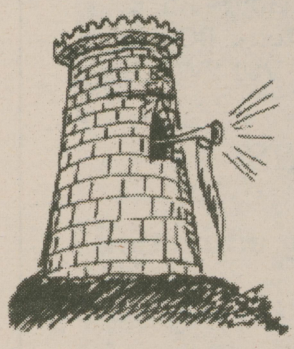
Oct. 8, 7 pm, BCGEU, 2994 Douglas St.
Communities Solidarity Coalition meeting

Oct. 16, 2 pm, BCGEU, 2994 Douglas St.
Greater Victoria Seniors meeting
Guest Speaker: Ben Swankey

Oct. 20, Nanaimo
Meeting of Island Solidarity Coalitions

Oct. 31, Hemispheric Day of Action
Students across the Americas will mobilize in solidarity this day.
Stay tuned.

Victoria's Communities Solidarity Coalition



VICTORIA, BC— The Communities Solidarity Coalition is a group of organizations and citizens from the Greater Victoria area, committed to the future of British Columbia. They have come together in opposition to the neo-Liberal attack on our communities, public services, workers, and the most vulnerable segments of our society.

The goal of the CSC is to prevent the implementation of these policies, and to protect, strengthen and reclaim our communities: to mount a vigorous campaign to create a massive, vibrant opposition to the neo-Liberal agenda.

CSC members are representative of all age groups, social and political strata, public and private sector, Union and non-Union, students through senior citizens. They wish to create a consciousness-building process that will respect diversity of tactics, and develop a strategy for effective action.

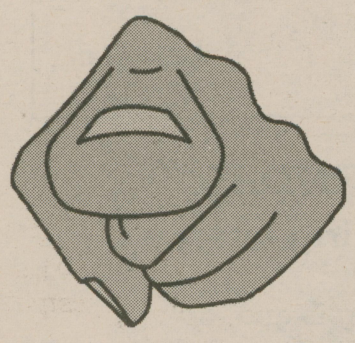
Mission Statement of the Communities Solidarity Coalition:
"To constructively unite in solidarity, standing in defense of the right of citizens to a decent and healthy life. To be active in direct and mass ways in support of those currently, and especially urgently, under attack by the power base.

The CSC operates on the principles of being mutually supportive of each other, free of racism, sexism, ageism, ablism, and other forms of discrimination."

The Communities Solidarity Coalition meets every second Monday at the BCGEU building, 2994 Douglas Street, Victoria. Representatives of organizations and individuals are welcome to attend these meetings. Sub-committees cover areas including fundraising and action. The position of chair rotates through our member-organizations.

To get involved, call (250) 480-4533, email solidarity@shaw.ca, or visit the CSC webpage: www.victoriasolidarity.org!

Your Province Needs You!



The organizations involved in the struggle need two things: your time and your money! We need you at Centennial Square at 10 a.m. Oct. 7 to join thousands in resisting the Liberals' return to the Legislature.

Bring a placard, outdoor clothing, and plenty of food and water. Please get in touch with us today!

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Victoria, BC V8T 2W1
tel.(250) 480-0533/ solidarity@shaw.ca
www.victoriasolidarity.org

Support grows for Solidarity Coalition

B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union
B.C. Nurses Union
B.C. Pathways
B.C. Young New Democrats
Camosun College Student Society
Council of Canadians - Victoria Chapter
CUPE 951 - UVic 'Indoor' workers
CUPE 4163 - UVic Educational Employees
End Legislated Poverty
Esquimalt Neighbourhood House
Forest Action Network - Vancouver Island
Graduate Students' Society (UVic)
Greater Victoria Seniors - Branch #171 of the B.C. Old Age Pensioner Organization Association
Health Sciences Association
Hospital Employees Union (CUPE)
HEU Queen Alexandra Local
Industrial Workers of the World
International Socialists
L'Humanité
Kardel Consulting Inc.
Policy Probe
Red Cedar Co-operative
Status of Women Action Group
University of Victoria Students' Society
Vancouver Island Human Rights Coalition
Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group
Victoria Anti-Poverty Coalition
Victoria Labour Council

A number of concerned citizens attend our weekly meetings and participate actively in our committees. The endorsements of several other labour and social justice organizations have yet to be confirmed at press time.

To add your group to this list, please call Colin Graham, 384-8331 or Bob Wilson, 480-0533.